

## Meditation on Genesis 25-36

By Bev Kilts

From the beginning of Scripture we follow God weaving his will through the blessed Davidic lineage into history. But from the very beginning this would not be a simple process—humans were involved. In chapters 25-36 we read of Jacob and his twin brother Esau and a series of struggles and deceptions interwoven with God's promises and His work in their lives to bring them into a personal relationship with Him. (Do you see His love, His patience?) In chapter 28 we find Jacob fleeing from family, home, friends to go to a strange land. He's in fear of his life. He has deceived his father to gain the blessing, which legally would have belonged to the older twin, Esau. Esau is enraged and vows to kill him. Jacob is alone and God comes to him in a dream. Reread chapter 28: 13-15. This could very well be the first time Jacob has had a personal encounter with the God of his Fathers. Certainly he would have been aware from his birth of the God of his grandfather, Abraham, and of his father, Isaac, and the covenant made by God. But this time is different; he's in the very presence of Almighty God. God reminds him that the promises made in the past are still valid. They applied to Jacob, and, praise God, they apply to us. In Matthew 28:19-20, we find the covenant repeated by our Savior, Jesus, whose birth was promised to Jacob that night at Bethel. Jesus reminds the disciples that He would be with them. In Philippians 1:6 Paul reminds Christ's followers of the same promise and we have that same promise today.



This speaks so clearly to the Bible being the “living” Word of God. Within all of our circumstances THERE IS GOD – loving us, guiding us, forgiving us. Reread Genesis 28, verse 15 (I want to highlight it) “I AM WITH YOU AND WILL WATCH OVER YOU WHEREVER YOU GO AND I WILL BRING YOU BACK TO THIS LAND (I sense Him saying, “I will bring you back to me”). I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU UNTIL I HAVE DONE WHAT I HAVE PROMISED YOU.”

Through the years God is weaving a relationship. I WILL BLESS YOU...I WILL BE WITH YOU...I WILL...

And it is for us to say, “I will follow”

Things don't always go as we hope, and life is not without its pains and struggles, but God will never leave us.

Today we can only pray for His Strength...His sustenance...His forgiveness ...trusting, in full confidence, that our God is unchanging. He has promised to bless us, to strengthen us, to lead us to everlasting life. God follows through on His promises that He is always watching over us no matter what happens.



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