



Genesis 29:16 – 31

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Jeff Atchison, Pastor, Calvary Chapel Oxnard

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 29:16 – 31

JACOB'S BACKSTORY

Leah & Rachel

Vs 16 – 19

Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, "I'll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It's better that I give her to you than to some other man. Stay here with me." So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.

Jacob chooses his bride based on the eyes.

Jacob romantically offers 7 years for Rachel.

Laban deceives Jacob

Vs 21 – 25

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to make love to her." So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast. But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and Jacob made love to her. And Laban gave his servant Zilpah to his daughter as her attendant. When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn't I? Why have you deceived me?"

The law of the firstborn

Vs 26

Laban replied, "It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one."

Leah's broken heart

Vs 27 – 31

"Finish this daughter's bridal week; then we will give you the younger one also, in return for another seven years of work." And Jacob did so. He finished the week with Leah, and then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. Laban gave his servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her attendant. Jacob made love to Rachel also, and his love for Rachel was greater than his love for Leah. And he worked for Laban another seven years. When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless.

THE LESSON

Jacob was totally UN-like Jesus!

From Ephesians 5 ... Marriage is meant to be a picture of the Gospel; and the Gospel is meant to be our template for marriage.

Leah should have thrived and flourished in Jacob's love!



THE GOSPEL

We were Leahs ...

And He transformed us into Rachels!

Live this out: See others as Christ sees you!

How should Jacob have loved Leah?

CLOSING

"Just As ..."

The two most powerful words for the Christian's life!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Ice Breaker: Ever married? Describe your engagement, especially the humor! Or, if never married: What would the ideal proposal look like to you?
- After Jacob was deceived by Laban to marry Leah, what were his options? How would different scenarios have played out?
- Laban explained: He had to marry off the eldest sister first. Compare this to Jacob's own experience with Esau, his older brother.
- Pastor Jeff suggested that Jacob should have chosen Leah, even though he was smitten with Rachel, since this models the love of Jesus for us! Discuss this!
- Arranged marriages can work, if these factors are in place: (Discuss)
- How is marriage a picture of the Gospel?
- How is the Gospel a template for marriage?
- "In the Gospel, we were like Leah!" Talk about this comparison!
- The words "Just As" are powerful words for Christian living and impact. What verses express this truth?