

Genesis 33

1,2 No wonder later in this story the brothers are all jealous of Joseph, Daddy's favorite. Even though he has had this encounter with God, he is still not entirely the man that God is making him into. He has not yet learned to let his trust in God overcome his fear.

3 But at least he is going out in front of his family, which is a big change. Before he would have been in the rear with Rachel ready to run.

4 The sibling rivalry is overcome by the bond of brotherhood. Mom has died. Dad is still an invalid. Now they only have each other as family. A lot of water has passed under the bridge and time has healed the wounds in Esau's heart.

5 Notice again that he gives God the credit and not his schemes and labor.

6-8 A restitution, but he could not bring himself to say it that way.

9,10 Does this mean when he saw Christ at Peniel he saw assurance and peace? Or is he trying to hint to Esau about his encounter? He has been received by God favorably because of grace. Now his brother, too, expressed grace toward him, forgiveness. Interesting analogy he has drawn.

11 Esau accepts the gift. Does he consider it an apology? Jacob insisted. I don't know if he would have if this encounter had taken place a week earlier.

12-14 Jacob wants some space so he makes an excuse.

15 He does not want anything in return for the gift, just to find favor with Esau. He never went to Seir to see her, I mean him.

16 – 20 No more bargains with God. Now he worships My Mighty God! He is beginning to see more clearly the awesome God who has chosen him.