

Genesis 34

1,2 Mutual consent is not mentioned. He did not go through customary procedure: meet with the father, discuss the bride price, prepare a place for her, etc.

3 He wooed her. They were in love, lust, or something. We never really hear of Dinah's feelings. Does the fact that he spoke tenderly to her imply that she was won over? Rebekah was asked, so we might assume it was customary at the time to consult the woman as to her opinion.

4 Now he goes through the procedure but after violating her. His treatment of her does not show honor or respect for her or her father who is her guardian.

5-7 Notice the boy sins against the girl's father. The sons are mad at the insult to their father. This is very different from the way western society looks at this. We would claim the woman was sinned against. Today they would say if it was mutual consent, no harm. That is not the Biblical view.

8,9 You've got single boys, we've got single girls, so lets make an alliance of marriages.

10 Settle down here. How many times have the patriarchs who are pilgrims and strangers been asked to settle down?

11 Look on me graciously and name your price.

12 Sounds like Jesus in his great love for us willing to even pay with his own blood.

13 The sons enter in to the negotiations but with the old Jacob spirit, deceit.

14-17 They already have hatched a plot. They are talking for Dad. There is the added threat of leaving which to the love-sick man is extra incentive.

18-26 They betrayed their trust and acted in vengeance. Dinah had already moved in. How did she feel about all this?

27,29 Not only do they kill all the males, they rob the entire city. They even take the women and children. Incredibly vile and malicious.

30,31 The clans had alliances and Jacob only had his brother. He feared that once the other clans heard, they would be slaughtered. The boys claimed it was justice. They justified their murder and robbery with the violation of their sister. Do two wrongs make a right? What should have been done?