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THE JACOB JOURNEY

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INTRODUCTION

From the beginning, the Scriptures teach us that God did not just set His creation in motion with no purpose and no plan. Indeed our God is a God of order and before He framed His visible material world, He knew exactly what the end of it would be. And He knew every jot and tittle of what each object and each person was ordained to become.

The apostle Paul wrote to the church, *“But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, TO REVEAL HIS SON IN ME, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood.”* (Ga. 1: 15-16)

Paul was not referring to his natural mother's womb, Paul was writing about his separation from Judaism which is the spiritual womb where Paul was formed. Paul was a loyal adherent to Judaism; a Pharisee who had fiercely persecuted Christians. His separation had been rapid and severe. It was the Lord Jesus Himself in resurrection power who had come to call Paul out of his darkness.

So it is no wonder that as soon as Paul found himself separated from Judaism, he was ready to follow the Lord with a fervent determination. He did not need to go confer with the disciples that had come before him. He did not attend seminars or conventions so that God could reveal His Son in him. Paul went all by himself in the desert of Arabia where for three years he sat at the feet of Jesus and received of Him the spirit of revelation.

Paul's calling was not the same as the others be

fore him. Although we are very much “one” in Christ, each calling differs from the others. Paul clearly explains this to us in his teachings to the Church at Corinth. For this reason, the Lord takes each and every one aside as He did Paul and begins to REVEAL HIS SON WITHIN.

We have no need to run to a literal desert as Paul did but in our soul and spirit we find ourselves separated from the world and the worldly church that raised us. We find ourselves in a dry place, but it is where the Lord fine-tunes our ears to hear His voice and teaches us through His Holy Spirit.

It is there that the Son is being revealed in us. He is appearing to those who look for Him. *“...and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”* (Heb.9: 28b)

As the Lord reveals Himself we are as the disciples on the road to Emmaus. He first taught them through the Scriptures *“...beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.”* (Lk.24: 27) Surely we find Him in the Word.

But it was in the breaking of bread that they knew Him. *“And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.”* (Vs.30-31) It is in the every day partaking and eating of His bread of life that we know Him. The living word that we receive daily from Him is becoming flesh within us.

The Son is the Word who is being made flesh in us. Therefore as He is revealed in us we begin to comprehend the Father's plan purpose for His creation. God's plan has been written in plain view yet it is concealed until we mature and the Spirit reveals it to each one who looks for Him.

The first thing on God's plan was to send His only Son as the pure sacrificial Lamb who died for the sins of the world. Then He was raised from the dead and became the Firstborn of a new creation. Then His plan called out a people who would go through the death of self and to raise them up as His bride or church. In her He planted the Seed of Christ that she might bring forth His image in the world.

The entire Bible is the story of the Father's great love for the world and the Son who came to save it. From the foundation of the world, God designed and ordained His plan and He chose the ones who would bring it into action. He began in the natural and chose Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. From these He formed His first chosen nation in the earth.

A NATION ABOVE ALL NATIONS

When God sent Moses to Pharaoh, He gave Him these significant words, “*Thus saith the Lord, **Israel is my son, even my firstborn**; and I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me; and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.*” (Ex. 4: 22-23)

God birthed Israel as a nation to carry out His plan in the earth. He declared to them, “*For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people UNTO HIMSELF, ABOVE ALL THE NATIONS THAT ARE UPON THE EARTH.*” (Deu.14: 2) This was the calling of Israel in the Old Testament.

Later, God spoke this to the people, “*Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how **I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.** Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a **peculiar treasure unto me above all people** : for all the earth is mine. And ye shall be a kingdom of priests, and an*

holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.” (Ex.19: 4-6)

To fulfill God's plan, Israel was called to obedience. This is the covenant of Law and Law must be obeyed. The Law of Moses was fulfilled in Jesus. This means that our obedience to God has shifted from obeying a blanket Law as a nation to obeying the Spirit of God that abides within each individual.

All through the Old Testament we read about the rebellious and stubborn nature that drove Israel to turn away from her God and corrupt herself as a prostitute with the gods of the heathen nations around her. This happened with the first Israel of the Old Testament and happened again with the Israel or church of Jesus Christ whom He called “*The Mother of Harlots.*”

God who is longsuffering worked diligently with Israel for a period of four thousand years and showed her countless mercy. He forgave her rebellion over and over again until the day when He sent His Son in the flesh. When she rejected Him He left her and her house desolate and established a new covenant in His Son.

God's plans and purposes for His creation are fixed and immutable. They may be opposed and challenged; they may be ignored and mocked but God's plans and purposes are unchangeable and they will stand the test of time and eternity. They are engraved on tablets of stone, they are written on pages of parchment, they are carved in the lives of the patriarchs and now they are being written in the hearts and minds of all whom He has called.

God's plan and every individual in it have been in Christ from the beginning but it all had to be walked out in the earth. It had to come to pass. As Jesus said, Scriptures have to be fulfilled. God would have His nation, His Israel and His plan includes Gentile nations predestined and foreordained from the foundation.

God declared “*The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.*” (Ps. 24:1) And God will be all in all.

Just as He had extended mercy to His first Israel, God extended grace to the Gentiles. *"..Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."* (Jn.1:17b) God had promised to Abraham, *"In thy seed (Christ) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."* (Gen.22: 18) Jesus fulfilled that promise.

JACOB HAVE I LOVED

In the types and shadows of the Old Testament, God has concealed His plan for His Israel. This is clearly seen in the lives of the twins that were born to Rebekah and Isaac. *"As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."* (Rom.9: 13)

Jacob's name means "supplanter" and he certainly lived up to that name as he manipulated and contrived to find ways to replace the firstborn son and thus lay hold of the birthright. God was aware of Jacob's nature but instead of hating him for it, God loved him. Actually the reason God loved Jacob is because of his intense desire for the birthright.

It is important for us to understand the value of the "birthright." The Bible teaches that it is the firstborn son who assumes the authority and responsibilities of the father after his death. It is also the eldest son who inherits the "double portion" or twice the amount allotted to the other children. If the father is a king, then the succession to the throne goes to the firstborn son.

Christ is the firstborn Son of God and in Him we become *"..heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."* (Rom.8: 17) To suffer with Christ is to be rejected by the world as He was.

When we set out on our journey to become sons of God we go through the sufferings of the Son. This is inevitable. *"But as many as received him, to them gave he power TO BECOME the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."* (Jn.1: 12)

Jacob is a true type of those who strive for God's blessings in Christ. More than their own lives they desire to attain to the image of the firstborn Son and they will not be satisfied with less. God did not

only verbally declare His love for Jacob, He also proved His love and support for him all through his life.

WHY THE SECOND BORN GETS THE COVETED BIRTHRIGHT

When Rebekah became pregnant with twins, God told her, *"Two nations are in thy womb, and two manners of people shall be separated from thy bowels..."* (Gen. 25: 3a) Sure enough, she gave birth to twin boys with opposite natures. It was in the birth canal that the second boy reached out to be first and to take hold of the birthright.

"And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold there were twins in her womb. And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau. And after came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob.." (Gen.25: 24-26a)

God's ultimate plan for all the nations of the world was ready to play out in the lives of these two baby boys. As it has been taught many times, these two sons represent the two natures that are in the earth and in each one of us. It is why the Word declares that God loves Jacob and promises to bless him while his promise to Esau is to *"Lay his mountains (kingdoms) and heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness."* (Mal.1: 3)

In this Jacob and Esau also become the perfect type of the kingdom of God vs the kingdoms of this world. Or the first nation Israel vs the Israel of God which has been prepared "underground" by the Spirit in the hearts of His called out ones.

It is this New Jerusalem, His church, His bride that is soon to be revealed as she is appearing in the earth coming down from heaven (realm of Spirit) adorned as a bride for her bridegroom (Christ). The new Israel is the Body of Christ, the Church who has been *"sanctified and cleansed with the washing of water by the word and has become a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but who is holy and without blemish."* (see Eph.5: 26-27) She is born again of the water of the

Word and soon to become one with the Father and be fully born of the Spirit. (see I Pet.1:23)

It is evident that in order to be a type of this Israel of God, Jacob's nature had to be brought low and passed through the fire. In the sphere of types and shadows, Jacob's nature is key in the plan that our God has so skillfully and carefully designed for His people and His creation.

It is easy for us to relate to the heart of Jacob as he yearns for the birthright for we who have been called from our mother's womb have felt the tug in our hearts to receive all that God has for us.

To desire to be sons of God is to desire to obtain the birthright that is the same inheritance as Christ the firstborn Son. As we read above, *"to be heir's of God and joint heirs with Christ."* It is at the end of Jacob's journey that we see the inner struggle and determination that this man had for the prize of getting his name changed. Israel means Prince of God. A prince is the son of a king. This is the birthright that Jacob was really seeking and it is the birthright that we desire in Christ.

Esau was not about to make it easy for Jacob. On the contrary, Jacob had to flee from Esau in order to save his life. Esau represents the Antichrist spirit in our own flesh and in the systems that rule the world we live in. In order to be free from them we have to be found as Jesus was, *"Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."* (Jn. 14: 30) There was nothing in Jesus that could be tempted to possess anything of this world. He was not looking to build visible churches with large congregations to support His ministry; He could not be tempted to do that.

A LOOK AT ESAU

The reason God hated Esau is because he despised his birthright. He did not esteem his inheritance and when the day of the acid test came, he failed miserably. The test came at a time when he had been out many days looking for game. He was to the point of exhaustion so much so that he thought he was going to die. He had gone without food and was in dire

need of some nourishment. He came home and found that his brother Jacob had a large pot of lentil soup on the fire. He was famished and weak and it is understandable that he wanted this soup without delay.

Jacob was ready for him. He may had thought about this day for a long time and he would not miss this opportunity. The birthright was always on his mind. He desired it more than life while Esau wanted this life more than the birthright.

Esau could not resist the aroma of the soup and when Jacob handed him the bowl he grabbed it and did not count the cost. The birthright was not so important to Esau but it surely was to Jacob. Thus Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of pottage and with it despised or disdained and rejected his birthright. *"Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he did eat and drink, and rose up and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright."* (Gen.25: 34)

Esau is a type of all who rebel against God and yield to the Antichrist spirit. The word "Antichrist" does not only mean "AGAINST Christ" it specifically means "INSTEAD of Christ." The Antichrist spirit in man is the spirit of the serpent that makes man value this natural life above the life of God.

The children of Israel despised their birthright when time after time they disobeyed the God who had called them to show forth His glory and worshiped the gods of the heathen nations. They embraced their ways and married their women (flesh). This is basically what we do when we seek to worship in the ways of the worldly church after God has called us to become sons or heirs of God.

Esau is indeed the type of the nation who disdained her God and despised her birthright. This was Israel of old and it is also the Christian church that Jesus called Mystery Babylon, the notorious harlot of Revelation 17 and 18. She is the church that was called to follow Jesus but instead followed her lust for prestige and great wealth at the cost of man's souls. She is visible in our world today.

As Israel, this church was enticed by the thrills that the world offered. She despised the simplicity, the

holiness, the truth and the love that Jesus calls us to.

While God worked with Jacob, Esau prospered in the land. He raised kingdoms of great importance. The kingdoms of this world are all designed from Esau's cunning and deceitful nature. The religious kingdoms as well as the political ones are the product of an Esau (carnal mind). When our Lord was tested in the wilderness, the devil offered Him the kingdoms of this world but Jesus did not fall for that. On the other hand, Esau, the carnal man took the offer and ran with it.

Even though Jacob is the second born and his nature was in great need of discipline God chose him as the heir. And so it is that God's first Israel was not chosen to inherit the birthright but it is the second, the Israel of the Spirit in Christ who is chosen. The first Adam who is the firstborn but who is earthy does not receive the birthright; it is the Last Adam Christ who is heir of all things.

The birthright in Christ is that double portion which includes eternal life in heaven and in earth which is to say in SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY. *“What man is it that feareth the Lord? Him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.”* (Ps.25: 12-13)

Christ is the seed that is coming to fruition in our earthly bodies. This is His and our joint inheritance. It is our inheritance and our promised land in Christ.

JACOB'S BLESSING

At his father's death bed Jacob, the second born, received the blessing of the firstborn and it was irreversible. *“Let the people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.”* (Gen.27: 29) And so Jacob becomes a type of Christ in His body in the earth.

With this kind of a mandate, is it any wonder that life in the midst of those who could never really understand his calling became very difficult? And so it has been and it is for all who are called to sonship in

Christ. Esau's fury was now kindled against Jacob and his life was now filled with being trained and tested for the day that he would become Israel “Prince of God” or “One Who Prevails With God.”

Jacob had now been handed the birthright that belonged to the firstborn son. His father was Isaac, son of Abraham and Sarah, son of promise and his inheritance was great. Jacob needed to become worthy of that name. He could not remain Jacob the supplanter; he had to be as the true firstborn son.

And so, we who have heard the call and have been given the promises still have to walk through the trials and testings that change us into the image of the firstborn Son..

Jacob was now facing a colossal enemy. The enemy was not only his brother Esau, it was the Jacob nature in his flesh. This was his true Goliath. And so it is that we first face and overcome the enemy in the world and in the worldly church but we soon find that it is the enemy in our own carnal minds that is our true Goliath.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Jacob joined the throng of all those who have to flee the man of flesh and leave all behind. Abraham had to pack up, leave all behind and follow where the Lord led him. Later, the nation Israel had to flee out of Egypt and traipse through a barren and brutal wilderness for forty long years to find their land of promise.

This is God's way of teaching His people to know Him and to trust Him and not themselves and the world. God's way is to separate us from the world while we are still in it. It is while in this world that God strips us from all the religious and pious activities that we offered to soothe our consciences. Thinking to do God service, we were appeasing the gods of our own religious self.

Jacob was on his way to his mother's relatives; his uncle Laban. The name Laban means “white” and becomes a type of those who may be born again of the word but not yet born of the Spirit.

Jacob would later return to His Father's country but for now he needed to *"Increase in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."* (Lk. 2: 52) He needed to mature in the ways of the Lord.

He left with the blessing of the firstborn in his back pocket and now he was about to receive a mighty boost from the Lord Himself. It came in the way of a dream. This is the vehicle that God has chosen to communicate with many of His servants and many of His prophets.

"For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumbering upon the bed; Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction." (Job 33: 14-16)

So it was on his first night out that Jacob had a dream that left him in awe. He was on the side of the road and he had chosen a nice stone for his pillow. Was this the stone called the Rock that followed the children of Israel through the wilderness? *"And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat of the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: **and that Rock was Christ.**"* (I Cor. 10: 4)

While Jacob's head was resting on that stone, the heavens opened and he was transported in Spirit where he saw a ladder and God Himself at the top. This was no ordinary dream! How many know that God's angels bring us dreams while we sleep and when these dreams are understood and witnessed by the Spirit, they are as true and undeniable as the verses of the King James Bible?

This dream was certainly a source of strength to this lone man who had been separated from his family and all that he knew. Is this is where we find ourselves at this time? We are being separated and stripped from all that we knew and now we are clearly receiving direction from the Holy Spirit. Jacob must have felt lonely on the road to Laban, but after this dream, his step must have been lighter.

Not only did Jacob see the ladder that reached to

heaven and the angels of God ascending and descending on it. But *"Behold the Lord stood above it, AND SAID, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed."* (Gen.28: 13) And then the Lord proceeded to bless him with the same blessing given to Abraham.

And the Lord closed with this promise, *"And behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all the places wither thou goest, and will bring thee again unto this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of. And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew I not."* (Vs. 15-16)

This is the very same blessing and promise given to Abraham and to his seed *"And his seed is Christ."* (Gal.3:16) So this blessing was to Jacob on his journey and it is to us in Christ as well. Thank you Lord, we can put that in our back pocket as well!!

THE TITHE

Before leaving this place, Jacob made a vow to the Lord. Then he took the stone a set it up as a pillar which he called God's house. Then he pledged to give God the tenth of all that He gave him. Jacob's pledge was to be fulfilled with the material goods that the Lord placed in his possession. We know that Abraham also gave the tithe to Melchizedek.

Tithing is giving back to God a tenth of what He gives us. We tithe from our goods, our time and our talent, this is a solid biblical teaching. But for His firstfruits tithing takes on an even deeper meaning. God's firstfruits are His priesthood. In the Levitical Priesthood of the old Testament, the priests themselves are the tithe offering unto the Lord. The priests owned nothing; no land, no means of support other than what was allotted to them from the rest of the tribes. They did the service of the Tabernacle and all that it comprised. Their lives were totally dedicated to the Lord. Although the system became corrupt, it was the way that God had ordained it to be.

In Christ the order has changed but His firstfruits are still His priesthood. Jesus is the High Priest of

the Melchizedek priesthood where we belong. The firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb are the priests and kings that are called to the ministry of the Tabernacle not made with hands.

These priests have been stripped of all their worldly ambitions and have become virgins. Beloved, as firstfruits WE ARE the tithe that is returned unto God. We are forever dedicated to His service. We inherit His nature and we belong totally to Him.

JACOB ARRIVES IN HARAN

It is estimated that the distance that Jacob had to travel to reach Haran is about four-hundred and sixty-eight miles. Jacob most likely traveled with a small camel caravan and also walked a lot of the way. This gave him a lot of time to contemplate his situation and to be taught of the Lord. At any rate, traveling in those days was never a picnic.

The day finally came when Jacob came to the land of the people of the east. *“And he looked and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there by it; for out of that well they watered their flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth.”* (Gen.19: 2)

Nothing is by coincidence. Jacob's journey was ordered by the Lord and so is ours. It was not by chance that Pharaoh's daughter went to bathe right at the time that baby Moses's little ark was floating down the river. It was not by chance that a band of Ishmaelites came by the well where Joseph had been left to die, found him and turned out to be his ticket to life and to greatness in Egypt.

It was not by coincidence that the records of Mordecai's good deeds were found just in time to save his life and to save the Jewish nation. If we look back at our own life we also find that nothing happened by coincidence. It is all ordained of God.

And now it was also by divine appointment that the first woman Jacob saw on his arrival in Haran was the damsel who would give him Joseph and Benjamin, the sons who were the true heirs. Indeed it was Rachel that came to water the flocks of her father. A type of the true church. And it was for her

that Jacob's heart leaped in his chest.

It did not take long for Jacob to get things going. As soon as she came to the well he approached. *“And it came to pass when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of Laban, his mother's brother...that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban, his mother's brother. And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice and wept.”* (Gen. 29: 10-11)

Jacob wept for joy. Not only had he found the one who was to be his bride but she was a beauty! He was so looking forward to this marriage. Jacob felt that his journey was now successful and that his problems were solved. Can we not also identify with that?

After we have been separated from the Esau of the world systems and have begun our walk with God, we find ourselves by the well of living waters. It is there that by the Word, God's Holy Spirit introduces us to the true bride with whom we are soon to have union. She is a vision of beauty and purity and our hearts yearn for her. We now feel on top of the world having left the old system behind...from this day forward...all things are new!

FACED WITH REALITY

The day had to come when Jacob had to realize that things would not be as easy as he had thought. And so it was for us. I remember when my husband and I left the last of the denominational churches we had quickly passed through and now we were looking for the perfect church not knowing that we would only find her when we became perfect.

But we did find some who had heard the same Word and had also left their churches; we felt very much akin with them. Indeed they were beautiful people- By the Spirit, they were the Laban family we belonged with at the time.

Little did we realize that we still had rugged mountains to climb, torrential rivers to cross and dangerous storms to weather. We each had to be prepared by God's Holy Spirit before the vision of this beautiful day could come to pass.

Jacob was joined to his bride. She was veiled and he could not see her face on that day, but the next morning, when he awoke from his first night of bliss, he could not believe his eyes. This was not Rachel, it was her sister with the weak eyes, Leah! What a jolt! He had been duped!

So it was for us. The day came when we realized that the one we thought was the beautiful Rachel, was her sister Leah. Yes, and this was God's doing for us too. God did not say we would never be joined to the bride that would give birth to the son of the right hand (Benjamin) and the double portion son (Joseph). She will appear in us, but first we have to walk the walk and fulfill God's plan.

Rachel is a type of the true bride. She is the one who is being prepared in the Spirit and who is seen coming down from God out of heaven. Today, we are seeing as she is appearing in purity and truth and we are truly joined to her in Spirit and in truth. But first there are steps ordained for us. Leah must be satisfied. This was the law in Laban's day and it is so in the Spirit.

This is what our journey is all about. The story of Jacob truly depicts our walk as we are being changed from glory to glory into the image or nature of the firstborn Son.

OUR UNION TO LEAH

Jacob could not have the bride of his love first. He did not choose this situation; it was done for him. He soon found that Leah was very fertile. With a little help from her handmaiden, Leah gave Jacob ten sons who became the nation Israel. It was with that nation, Israel of old, that God established his covenant in the Law. We know that the meaning of Jacob's sons names represent our steps of growth in Christ. Amazing how God's plan for our lives are all hid in the scriptures.

Reuben- Behold A Son- Speaks of our first born-again experience in Christ. Jesus told Nicodemus, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (Jn.3: 5) For a long time I thought being born of water spoke

of our natural birth from our mother's wombs. Jesus is the Word. Peter says that we are "*Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by THE WORD of God...*" (I Pet.1: 23)

We are washed by the water of the Word. This is the beginning of our born again experience in Christ. It prepares us to be born again of the Spirit and enter the kingdom of God. Reuben, the firstborn is our first step.

Simeon- Hearing- Speaks of our spiritual ears being opened to understand God's Word.

Levi- Joined- This is when we learn to abide in God's will and be joined to Christ.

Judah- Praise- This is when we learn to offer the sacrifice of praise God in Spirit and in Truth.

Dan- Judge- This is when we learn to receive the daily word that brings judgment, correction and direction to our lives. The Word judges us daily.

Naphtali- Wrestling- This is where we are exercised to resist the forces that would flood our minds daily. We learn to call on the Christ within and become more than conquerors.

Gad- Troop- This is when we begin to realize that we are not alone in this. We are truly part of the Body of Christ. We are a Troop.

Asher- Happy- Leah was so happy to present this son to Jacob. The joy of the Lord comes with this walk.

Issachar- He will bring a reward- Indeed we are coming to the end of Leah's birthing time. We are looking for the reward which is Rachel.

Zebulun- This is Leah's sixth son to Jacob and the tenth son that is not from Rachel. His name means "a dwelling." He marks the time when we are no longer tossed about with every wind of doctrine but we abide in Him as He abides in us.

Lord willing, in our next study we will talk about Rachel and the last two sons of Jacob, Joseph and Benjamin who truly depict the glorious culmination of our walk in Christ

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*