

## Heroes – Jacob

### Hebrews 11:1-3

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. NKJV

- Faith is confident assurance
- It is going to happen
- God approves when we act in faith
- The God kind of faith

### Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. NKJV

- Faith strips off every weight
- Faith says no to sin
- Faith runs with endurance
- Faith focuses on Jesus
- Faith brings us to a place of honor
- Faith allows God to continue to work in us
- Faith is the Power to live the Kingdom Life

Jacob was a man that believed in the blessings of God yet allowed “Life” to take its toll

Before you know it – Where did that 21 years go?

### Genesis 25:24-26 NKJV

24 So when her days were fulfilled for her to give birth, indeed there were twins in her womb. 25 And the first came out red. He was like a hairy garment all over; so they called his name Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out, and his hand took hold of Esau's heel; so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

- Jacob – Supplanter
- One who takes hold of another
- Dog eat dog world
- Do unto others before they do unto you
- If you want to get ahead you have to...

Note: Jacob had ambition, determination and diligence

### Genesis 25:29-31

29 Now Jacob cooked a stew; and Esau came in from the field, and he was weary. 30 And Esau said to Jacob, "Please feed me with that same red stew, for I am weary." Therefore his name was called Edom. 31 But Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright as of this day." 32 And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?" NKJV

- Are my creature comforts more important than – “The Kingdom”
- Esau did not value what he had

Jacob steals Esau's blessing

Rebekah favored Jacob over Esau

She devised a plan to help him receive his brother's inheritance

The spoken blessing of God is extremely important

### Genesis 27:14-18

14 And he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and his mother made savory food, such as his father loved. 15 Then Rebekah took the choice clothes of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son. 16 And she put the skins of the kids of the goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. 17 Then she gave the savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob. 18 So he went to his father and said, "My father." NKJV

Isaac Blesses Jacob – Blessing of the firstborn – 2/3rds

We see that Jacob continues to learn how to manipulate and deceive to get the things he wants

You may receive some of the material blessings of God but there is still something missing – freedom God wants to impart – who am I?

### Genesis 27:36

36 And Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright, and now look, he has taken away my blessing!" And he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?" NKJV

Genesis 28:5, 11-12, 13-15

5 So Isaac sent Jacob away, and he went to Padan Aram, to Laban the son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.

11 So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. 12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. – Open heaven

13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. 14 Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. 15 Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." NKJV

- I Am the Lord of your fathers – Abraham and Isaac
- I will bless you
- I will give you all this land
- I will protect you
- I will be with you until I have done all that I have promised
- The blessing of Abraham upon the Gentiles

– Galatians 3:14

Jacob goes to visit Laban (his mother's brother) to find a wife

### Genesis 29:14-18

14 And Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh." And he stayed with him for a month. 15 Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my relative, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what should your wages be?" 16 Now Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. 17 Leah's eyes were delicate, but Rachel was beautiful of form and appearance. 18 Now Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter." NKJV

### Genesis 29:20

20 So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed only a few days to him because of the love he had for her. NKJV

- Did you ever want something so bad you would do almost anything for it?
- Be careful – You may not get what you expect?

### Genesis 29:25

25 So it came to pass in the morning, that behold, it was Leah. And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served you? Why then have you deceived me?" NKJV

- How does it feel to be deceived?
- You will reap what you sow

### Galatians 6:7

7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. NKJV

### Genesis 29:28-29

28 Then Jacob did so and fulfilled her week. So he gave him his daughter Rachel as wife also. 29 And Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as a maid. NKJV

God blesses Jacob

He has many children

All that Laban has is blessed because of Jacob

Remember: Just because God is blessing you does not mean He is finished with you or that you have arrived

### Philippians 3:12

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. NKJV

- Am I committed to the process?

### Genesis 29:28-30

29 And Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as a maid. 30 Then Jacob also went in to Rachel, and he also loved Rachel more than Leah. And he served with Laban still another seven years. NKJV

Jacob Peeled branches from the almond trees set them beside the watering troughs

When the sheep mated their offspring were streaked, speckled and spotted

### Genesis 30:43

43 Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys. NKJV

- The Lord is up to something
- Even in all the blessings sometimes there is no peace
- All my life the person over me has been the problem

What has God given me?

What have I done with it?

How does that question make you feel?

Am I thankful?

Might be a key to whether you're living in freedom or not

Am I mad at God? Do I question God? Do I know Him?

Can I look at myself in the mirror?

### Genesis 31:38

38 These twenty years I have been with you; your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried their young, and I have not eaten the rams of your flock. NKJV

- What have I done wrong?
- I don't deserve this

### Genesis 31:41-42

41 Thus I have been in your house twenty years; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times. 42 Unless the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. NKJV

Jacob lives there for 21 years and his wife brings foreign gods with her

Do I have any idols? What have I allowed to creep in?

Jacob faces Esau

### Genesis 32:6-7

6 Then the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and he also is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." 7 So Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed; and he divided the people that were with him, and the flocks and herds and camels, into two companies. NKJV

- You've got to face your past sooner or later
- We have to face the truth about ourselves
- Our reliance on self
- Our disobedience to God
- Our trust in other things

### Genesis 32:22-24 NKJV

22 And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. 23 He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. 24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

- He left his family
- He left his possessions
- He was alone with God
- I had the money, the drugs, the sex – am I done?
- We all need to draw near – James 4:8



### Genesis 32:25-27

25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" NKJV

- Jacob – Supplanter
- One who takes hold of another
- Dog eat dog world
- Do unto others before they do unto you
- If you want to get ahead you have to...
- All the blessings without “The Blessing” mean nothing – Seek the Kingdom first!

### 2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. NKJV

### Genesis 32:28

28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." NKJV

- Israel – Prince with God
- Has God changed my name?
- Am I satisfied?
- Blessed, Broke, Gave – Eyes opened – **Luke 24:30, 31**

### Genesis 32:29-31

29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place **Peniel**: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over Peniel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. NKJV

- Am I done fighting?
- Am I angry at myself?
- Am I angry at God?
- Am I still looking for that one thing?
- Am I still running from God?

### Genesis 33:10-11

10 And Jacob said, "No, please, if I have now found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as **I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God**, and you were pleased with me. 11 Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." So he urged him, and he took it. NKJV

- When I've seen God and allowed Him to look into me  
I see others differently
- People are no longer the enemy
- My purpose becomes reconciliation
- God is the God of reconciliation