



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 28:10-32:2 (3)
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
- Hosea 12:12-14:9 (10)
- Romans 6, 7, 8
- Gen. 49:29-31; 35:16-19
- 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
- Gen. 41:37-38
- Matt. 24:42-46; 25:20-30
- Matt. 7:13-23

STILL CHASING IDOLS?

- A Love Story
- Yahweh and Idols Don't Mix
- Blessed Beyond Measure
- It's not enough!
- I want my idols!
- Be careful what you say!
- Why do I do that?
- The Wages of Sin
- Tossed from the Grave

THEME: Exceedingly blessed and still chasing idols!

“The man Jacob became very, very rich: he owned large flocks, female and male servants, camels, and donkeys.” Genesis 30:43 CEB... “Then Rachel and Leah replied [to Jacob], “**Do we still have any share in the inheritance** of our father’s estate? Does he not regard us as foreigners? Not only has he sold us, but he has used up what was paid for us. **Surely all the wealth that God took away**

from our father belongs to us and our children. So do whatever God has told you.”” Genesis 31:14-16 NIV... “So Jacob got up, put his sons and wives on the camels, and set out with all of his livestock and all of his possessions that he had acquired in Paddan-aram in order to return to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan. Now, while Laban was out shearing his sheep, **Rachel stole the household’s divine images [idols] that belonged to her father.**” Genesis 31:17-19 CEB

OUTCOME: What agreement can there be with God and Idols? “Don’t be tied up as equal partners with people who don’t believe. What does righteousness share with that which is outside the Law [wicked]? What relationship [communion, fellowship] does light have with darkness? What harmony does Christ have with Satan? What does a believer have in common with someone who doesn’t believe? **What agreement can there be between God’s temple and idols?** Because we are the temple of the living God. Just as God said, I live with them, and I will move among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. **Therefore, come out from among them and be separated,** says the Lord. Don’t touch what is unclean. Then I will welcome [receive] you. I will be a father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This portion contains Jacob's famous vision at Luz which he then renames Bethel (Jacob's Ladder).
2. Yahweh's exceedingly great promise that Jacob's descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth is revealed, and that in his seed all the families of the EARTH will be blessed.
3. Yahweh promises to be with Jacob until all He has spoken is fulfilled.
4. Jacob pledges a tenth of all his prosperity if Yahweh protects him on his journey and provides for all his needs (food and clothing.)
5. Jacob meets Rachel and kisses her (a bold move!)
6. Rachel tells her father Laban that Jacob is Rebekah's (Laban's sister) son and Jacob stays for an entire month.
7. Laban is overjoyed and offers Jacob employment as he sees that his nephew should not work for free. He asks Jacob what he would like.
8. Jacobs says he would like Rachel and offers to work seven years for her.
9. Laban agrees but when seven years are fulfilled he tricks Jacob and sends Leah into his marriage chambers (one might ask: "How could Jacob not know?")

10. Jacob marries Leah and then works another seven years for Rachel! (That is commitment!)
11. Jacob's double marriage results in a baby-bearing contest (birth war) that gives him twelve sons. (Including children with both Leah's maidservant Zipah and Rachel's maidservant Bilhah.)
12. *See the birth chart on the last page of these notes.
13. At the end of the portion, Jacob agrees to leave Laban.
14. Jacob asks to take only the spotted and speckled sheep which Laban is happy to agree with, but then Laban cheats Jacob a second time (we are dealing with a pagan here!) by quickly extracting the marked sheep and giving them to his own sons.
15. Jacob is blessed anyway as Yahweh shows him a way to cause all the strongest sheep to birth spotted and speckled offspring.
16. Laban's daughters are happy to leave their father with Jacob's prosperity (portion) as they see it as their rightful inheritance.
17. Jacob sets out to return to the land of Canaan so prosperous that Laban tries to stop him. (How similar this is to Israel leaving Egypt later in history.)
18. Before they leave, **Rachel snatches Laban's household idols to take with her [Key Prophetic Moment!]**. The missing idols infuriate Laban as he pursues Jacob. **Whoever took them will surly die!**
19. In the end Jacob makes a covenant of peace with Laban.

1. A LOVE STORY LIKE NONE OTHER

A. Issac sent Jacob to find a wife from a relative and it's love at first sight.

(1) LOVE FROM THE MOMENT HE SET EYES ON HER:

"When Jacob saw Rachel daughter of his uncle Laban, and Laban's sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle's sheep.

Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud. He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and told her father." Genesis 29:10-12 NIV

B. I will do anything for Love!

(1) I WILL TRADE SEVEN YEARS OF MY LIFE FOR THIS

WOMEN: "Jacob loved Rachel and said, "I will work for you for seven years for Rachel, your younger daughter." Genesis 29:18

(2) SEVEN YEARS FOR RACHEL IS LIKE NOTHING: Jacob worked for Rachel for seven years, **but it seemed like a few days because he loved her.** Genesis 29:20

C. Oops—we don't marry off 2nd daughters before the 1st. I thought you knew! Take Leah and then you can have Rachel.

(1) OUCH, THE BAIT AND SWITCH: Complete the celebratory week with this woman [Leah]. Then I will give

you this other woman [Rachel] too for your work, **if you work for me seven more years.**" Genesis 29:27

- (2) IT'S ALL WORTH IT: Jacob slept with Rachel, and **he loved Rachel more** than Leah. He worked for Laban seven more years." Genesis 29:30 CEB

2. BLESSED BEYOND MEASURE

A. Blessed with a child from his True love!

- (1) THE BIRTH OF JOSEPH: "Then God remembered Rachel, responded to her, and let her conceive. She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, "God has taken away my shame." She named him **Joseph**, saying to herself, May the LORD give me another son." Genesis 30:22-24 CEB

B. Blessed with super-abundant favor and wealth as a testimony, so much so that he can go off on his own.

- (1) TIME TO GO: "After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Send me off so that I can go to my own place and my own country. Give me my wives and children whom I've worked for, and I will go. You know the work I've done for you.'" Genesis 30:25-26 CEB
- (2) LABAN RECOGNIZES THAT HIS INCREASED PROSPERITY IS BECAUSE OF JACOB'S RELATIONSHIP

WITH YAHWEH: "Laban said to him, "Do me this favor. **I've discovered by a divine sign** that the LORD has blessed me because of you, so **name your price** and I will pay it." Genesis 30:27-28 CEB

- (3) JACOB SAYS, YES YOU WERE BLESSED BECAUSE OF ME, NOW IT IS MY TIME TO BUILD MY OWN HOUSEHOLD!
"Jacob said to him, "You know how I've worked for you, and how well your livestock have done with me. While in my care, what little you had has multiplied a great deal. The LORD blessed you wherever I took your livestock. **Now, when will I be able to work for my own household too?"**" Genesis 30:29-30 CEB

C. Division of assets—Kingdom style:

- (1) JACOB WILL TAKE THE ONES THAT ARE MARKED (NOT PERFECT): "I will go through the entire flock today, taking out all of the speckled and spotted sheep, all of the black male lambs, and all of the spotted and speckled female goats. That will be my price. I will be completely honest with you: when you come to check on our agreement, every female goat with me that isn't speckled or spotted and every male lamb with me that isn't black will be considered stolen." Genesis 30:32-33 CEB

(2) LABAN CHEAT AGAIN: "Laban said, "All right; let's do it." However, on that very day Laban took out the striped and spotted male goats and all of the speckled and spotted female goats—any with some white in it—and all of the black male lambs, and **gave them to his sons**. He put a three-day trip between himself and Jacob, while Jacob was watching the rest of Laban's flock." Genesis 30:34-36 CEB

D. Blessed with divine direction and provision

(1) SUPERNATURAL INTERVENTION AND FAVOR: "Then Jacob took new branches from poplar, almond, and plane trees; and he peeled white stripes on them, exposing the branches' white color. He set the branches that he had peeled near the watering troughs so that they were in front of the flock when they drank, because they often mated when they came to drink. **When the flock mated in front of the branches, they gave birth to striped, speckled, and spotted young**. Jacob sorted out the lambs, turning the flock to face the striped and black ones in Laban's flock but keeping his flock separate, setting them apart from Laban's flock." Genesis 30:37-40 CEB

(2) NOT JUST THE GREATEST NUMBER, BUT THE BEST QUALITY: "**Whenever the strongest of the flock mated**, Jacob put the branches in front of them near the watering

troughs so that they mated near the branches. But he didn't put branches up for the **weakest of the flock**. So the weakest became Laban's and the strongest Jacob's."

Genesis 30:41-42 CEB

E. Jacob was exceedingly prosperous:

(1) VERY RICH! "The man Jacob became **very, very rich**: he owned large flocks, female and male servants, camels, and donkeys." Genesis 30:43 CEB

(2) PUT ANOTHER WAY! "In this way the man grew **exceedingly prosperous** and came to own large flocks, and female and male servants, and camels and donkeys."

Genesis 30:43 NIV

F. Blessed with divine direction and protection:

(1) LABAN'S SONS ARE NOT HAPPY! "Jacob heard that Laban's sons were saying, "**Jacob took everything our father owned and from it he produced all of this wealth.**"

And Jacob saw that Laban no longer liked him as much as he used to."Genesis 31:1-2 CEB

(2) YAHWEH WARNS JACOB AND TELLS HIM TO GO!

"Then the LORD said to Jacob, "**Go back to the land** of your ancestors and to your relatives, and I will be with you.'" Genesis 31:3 CEB

- (3) CHEATED BUT PROTECTED: “You know that I’ve worked for your father as hard as I could. **But your father cheated me** and changed my payment ten times. **Yet God didn’t let him harm me.**” Genesis 31:6-7 CEB
- (4) YAHWEH TAKES FROM THE UNRIGHTEOUS AND GIVES TO THE RIGHTEOUS: “God took away your father’s livestock and gave them to me.” Genesis 31:9 CEB
- (5) YAHWEH SEES IT ALL AND HAS YOUR BACK: “He said, ‘Look up and watch all the striped, speckled, and spotted male goats mounting the flock. **I’ve seen everything that Laban is doing to you.** I am the God of **Bethel** **[REMINDER: Jacob, I’m the one who made all those PROMISES in that vision you had at Luz]**, where you anointed a sacred pillar and where you made a solemn promise to me. Now, get up and leave this country and go back to the land of your relatives.’” Genesis 31:12-13 CEB

3. IT’S NOT ENOUGH—I STILL WANT MY IDOLS

A. We want what is ours, so we are good with how Yahweh is blessing you o darling husband!

- (1) WHERE IS MY SHARE? “Rachel and Leah answered him [Jacob], **“Is there any share or inheritance** left for us in our father’s household?” Genesis 31:14 CEB

- (2) DAD'S NOT GOING TO GIVE US ANYTHING SO PRAISE YAHWEH JACOB'S GOT IT! "**Doesn't he think of us as foreigners** since he sold us and has even used up the payment he received for us?" Genesis 31:15 CEB
- (3) IT'S ONLY RIGHT! "**All of the wealth God took from our father belongs to us and our children.** Now, do everything God told you to do." Genesis 31:16 CEB

B. But, what Yahweh is giving is just not enough so...

- (1) WE GOT IT ALL, BUT I STILL DON'T TRUST YAHWEH COMPLETELY, SO... "So Jacob got up, put his sons and wives on the camels, and set out with all of his livestock and all of his possessions that he had acquired in Paddan-aram in order to return to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan. Now, while Laban was out shearing his sheep, **Rachel stole the household's divine images [idols] that belonged to her father.**" Genesis 31:17-19 CEB **[Note: maybe these are fertility God's as Rachel is obsessed with the birth war!]**

C. Jacob does not even know what he is promising, and it will come back to bite him!

- (1) JACOBS DEADLY PROPHETIC WORDS "**Whoever you find with your divine images won't live.** Identify whatever I have that is yours, in front of your brothers, and take it."

Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen them. Laban went into Jacob's tent, Leah's tent, and her two servants' tent and didn't find them. So he left Leah's tent and went into Rachel's. **Now Rachel had taken the divine images and put them into the camel's saddlebag and sat on them.** Laban felt around in the whole tent but couldn't find them. Rachel said to her father, "**Sir, don't be angry with me because I can't get up for you; I'm having my period.**" He searched but couldn't find the divine images." Genesis 31:32-35 CEB

(2) I BROUGHT THE IDOLS ALONG WITH ME, THEY ARE IN MY BAGGAGE! "You've now felt through all of **my baggage**, and what have you found from your household's belongings? Put it in front of our relatives, and let them decide between us." Genesis 31:37 CEB

(3) HOSEA IS THE PROPHET ASSOCIATED WITH THIS GENESIS PORTION: **Ephraim, what do idols have to do with me? [Remember Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 6: "What agreement can there be between God's temple and idols?"]** It is I who answer and look after you. I am like a green cypress tree; your fruit comes from me. **Whoever is wise understands these things. Whoever observes carefully [discerns] knows them.** Truly, the

LORD's ways are right, and the righteous will walk in them, but evildoers will stumble in them." Hosea 14:8-9

D. Who is the wise and discerning?

- (1) HOSEA KNOWS THE STORY OF JOSEPH. PHARAOH CHOSE JOSEPH! "The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, '**Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?**' Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, '**Since God has made all this known to you, there is no-one so discerning and wise as you.**'" Gen. 41:37-38 NIVUK
- (2) Y'SHUA KNOWS THE STORY OF JOSEPH. Y'SHUA CHOSE JOSEPH! "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also **must be ready**, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. '**Who then is the faithful and wise servant**, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? **It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.**'" Matt. 24:42-46 NIVUK

(3) ***KEY PROPHETIC PICTURE!** The prophet Hosea, whom Judaism knows is related to this portion of Genesis, uses the words to describe the OPPOSITE of someone who partners with Idols or who drags their old idols into their new life. Hosea relates many stories of Yahweh's people being blessed, delivered, prospering, and STILL GOING BACK TO IDOLS. He uses Joseph as the quintessential picture of a WISE and FAITHFUL (discerning) SERVANT, who DOES NOT DO THAT. And so does Y'shua use Joseph as the PERFECT EXAMPLE of such a servant in His only dissertation of what the end-of-the-age looks like!

4. I WAS SO BLESSED, SO WHY DO I DO THAT? WHY DO I GO BACK TO MY OLD WAYS? A PEEK INTO THE MIND OF PAUL!

A. The blessing was so clear!

- (1) IT'S A NEW LIFE! "Therefore, we were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4
- (2) I AM NO LONGER A SLAVE TO SIN! "This is what we know: the person that we used to be was crucified with him in order to get rid of the corpse that had been

controlled by sin. That way we wouldn't be slaves to sin anymore," Romans 6:6 CEB

- (3) IT SHOULD BE PERFECTLY CLEAR—MY OLD WAYS (IDOLS) ONLY LEAD TO DEATH! "What consequences did you get from doing things that you are now ashamed of? The outcome of those things is death." Romans 6:21

B. But I am still confused!

- (1) I DO THE OPPOSITE! "I don't know what I'm doing, because I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do the thing that I hate." Romans 7:15 CEB
- (2) I CHOOSE EVIL! "I know that good doesn't live in me— **that is, in my body**. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do." Romans 7:18-19 CEB

C. Oh, I get it!

- (1) I SEE NOW, THAT PERSON WHO DOES THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT IS RIGHT AND GOOD IS NOT ACTUALLY ME ANYMORE! "But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, **it is sin that lives in me that is doing it.**" Romans 7:20 CEB

D. So now what?

- (1) I MUST ACKNOWLEDGE AND LIVE LIKE I HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED. AND DON'T GO BACK TO

FETCH MY OLD IDOLS! “I’m a miserable human being. **Who will deliver me** from this dead corpse? Thank God through **Jesus Christ our Lord [ALREADY DID]**! So then I’m a slave to God’s Law in my mind, but I’m a slave to sin’s law in my body.” Romans 7:24-25 CEB

- (2) SELF VS. THE HOLY SPIRIT! “People whose lives are based on **selfishness** think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the **Spirit** think about things that are related to the Spirit. The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace. So the attitude that comes from selfishness is hostile to God. It doesn’t submit to God’s Law, because it can’t. People who are self-centered aren’t able to please God.” Romans 8:5-8 CEB
- (3) GET THIS! GET IT NOW! AND DON’T FORGET IT! YOU ARE NO LONGER A VICTIM. YOU DO NOT NEED TO CHOOSE SELF IF YOU HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. “**But you aren’t self-centered. Instead you are in the Spirit, if in fact God’s Spirit lives in you.** If anyone doesn’t have the Spirit of Christ, they don’t belong to him. If Christ is in you, the Spirit is your life because of God’s righteousness, but the body is dead because of sin.” Romans 8:9-10 CEB

- (4) IT'S NO LONGER OPTIONAL...IT'S REQUIRED! "So then, brothers and sisters, **we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness.** If you live on the basis of selfishness, **you are going to die.** **But if by the Spirit** you put to death the actions of the body, **you will live."** Romans 8:12-13 CEB
- (5) WE ARE CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH! "All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters." Romans 8:14 CEB

5. THE FINAL OUTCOME—EXCLUDED FROM THE FAMILY GRAVE

A. Look! Sin never ends well. Hosea's powerful reminder!

- (1) BLESSED, REDEEMED, AND STILL OFFENSIVE: "Jacob fled to the land of Aram; there Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept watch over livestock. By a prophet the LORD brought Israel up from Egypt, and by a prophet he was guarded. **Ephraim has given bitter offense;** so the LORD will bring his crimes down on him and pay him back for his wrongdoing." Hosea 12:12-14 CEB
- (2) WHAT'S THE OFFENSE? IDOLS! "When Ephraim spoke, there was excitement; he was praised in Israel; but he became guilty through Baal and died. **And now they keep**

on sinning; they have made metal images, idols of silver, as a result of their skill, all of them the work of craftsmen.

"Sacrifice to these," they say. People are kissing calves!

Therefore, they will be like the morning mist, like the dew that passes away early, like husks that swirl from the threshing floor, or like smoke from a window." Hosea

13:1-3 CEB

B. The wages of sin is death...

(1) JACOB DECLARES THAT THE PERSON WHO STOLE THE ITEMS WILL NOT LIVE—HE DID NOT KNOW IT WAS HIS BLOVED RACHEL: "With whomever you find your gods, **do not let him live**. In the presence of our brethren, identify what I have of yours and take it with you." For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them." Genesis 31:32 NKJV

(2) LATER ON—RACHEL DIES GIVING BIRTH TO BENJAMIN: "They left Bethel, and when they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel went into hard labor. During her difficult labor, the midwife said to her, "Don't be afraid. You have another son." As her life faded away, just before she died, she named him Ben-oni, but his father named him **Benjamin. Rachel died and was buried near the road** to Ephrath, that is, Bethlehem." Genesis 35:16-19

- (3) INTERESTING THOUGHT: Rachel stole the idols from her father and she had a long struggle with fertility. When Laban comes looking she is hiding them in her saddlebag that she is SITTING ON and says she cannot move because she has her period (a women's cycle is a sign of fertility). SEE Genesis 31:32-35
- (4) RACHEL IS NOT BURIED IN THE FAMILY CAVE! CAN YOU IMAGINE—THE ONE JACOB LOVED SO MUCH IS BURIED ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD: "Jacob ordered them, "I am soon to join my people. Bury me with my ancestors in the cave that's in the field of Ephron the Hittite; in the cave that's in the field of Machpelah near Mamre in the land of Canaan that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite as a burial property. **That is where Abraham and his wife Sarah are buried, and where Isaac and his wife Rebekah are buried, and where I buried Leah.**" Genesis 49:29-31 CEB **[NOT RACHEL]**

C. The wages of sin is death BUT...

- (1) BUT...! "For the wages of sin is death, **but the gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23 NKJV
- (2) HOSEA ENDS WITH A PROMISE! "I will deliver this people from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, **O death, are your plagues? Where, O**

grave, is your destruction? 'I will have no compassion,"

Hosea 13:14 NIVUK

- (3) PAUL REITERATES HOSEA'S PROMISE! "When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: '**Death has been swallowed up in victory.**' '**Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?**' **The sting of death is sin,** and the power of sin is the law. **But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.** Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 NIVUK

- (4) REPENT! "**Return,** Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! Take words with you and **return** to the LORD. Say to him: 'Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips. Hosea 14:1-2

MEDITATION OF THE HEART

To end our study, I included this excerpt from Y'shua's words toward the end of the Sermon on the Mount. They are a sober reminder to take our faith seriously. If you want anything to do with our Savior's prayer for us, also in this great sermon, to participate in His Kingdom coming to earth, pray on these things. AND DON'T GO BACK TO THE IDOLS OF YOUR PAST!

“Go in through the narrow gate. The gate that leads to destruction is broad and the road wide, so many people enter through it. But the gate that leads to life is narrow and the road difficult, so few people find it. “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you dressed like sheep, but inside they are vicious wolves. You will know them by their fruit. Do people get bunches of grapes from thorny weeds, or do they get figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, and every rotten tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can't produce bad fruit. And a rotten tree can't produce good fruit. Every tree that doesn't produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, you will know them by their fruit. “Not everybody who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will get into the kingdom of heaven. Only those who do the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter. On the Judgment Day, many people will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name and expel demons in your name and do lots of miracles in your name?’ Then I'll tell them, ‘I've never known you. Get away from me, you people who do wrong.’” Matthew 7:13-23 CEB

Questions & Discussion

1. It always starts with a love story.

- D. What is your love story?
- E. Describe how Yahweh has pursued you?
- F. Relate the selfless sacrifice of Jacob for Rachel's hand in marriage with Y'shua's for your hand in marriage.

2. Supernatural provision:

- A. Describe an occasion when Yahweh intervened for you supernaturally?
- B. How have you been provided for in a physical sense?
- C. How have you been provided for in a spiritual sense?

3. Chasing Idols?

- A. Even after all Yahweh has done for you through His Son, have you ever found yourself going back to your old idols (ways)?
- B. What has been the hardest idol for you to surrender to Yahweh?
- C. What idol(s) have you yet to surrender?

4. Consequences:

- A. What has it cost you to go back to your old idols (or not giving them up in the first place)?
- B. What specific steps will you take to change?

THE BIRTH WAR AND THE SONS OF JACOB

LEAH Son#s1-4 Son#s 9-10	ZIPAH (Leah's servant) Son#s 7-8	BILHAH (Rachel's servant) Son#s 5-6	RACHEL Son#s 11-12
Reuben (1)	Gad (7)	Dan (5)	Joseph (11)
Simeon (2)	Asher (8)	Naphtali (6)	Benjamin (12)
Levi (3)			
Judah (4)			
Issachar (9)			
Zebulun (10)			

Note: The numbers after Jacob's son's names indicate their birth order as given in Genesis 29-30; 35:16-26. Dinah was actually the 11th born child of Jacob (born to Leah), but as a girl, she is not counted in birth order.