

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY NOTES

— August 12, 2018 —

Pastor Roche Coleman, Guest Speaker

SERMON: Grace to Change

TEXT: Genesis 35:1-7

Vital Verse: "Put away the foreign gods which are among you, and purify yourselves and change your garments..." Genesis 35:2b

Introduction: Comprehension of Genesis 35 is impossible without a study of the life of Jacob (Genesis 28-34), especially chapter 34. Jacob flees from his brother, Esau, after he deceived his father, Isaac, to procure the first child's blessing. Jacob disguised himself as Esau with the assistance of his mother, Rebekah (Gen. 27). Esau threatened to kill Jacob after Isaac's death (Gen. 27:41). Therefore, Rebekah sent Jacob to her brother, Laban, in Paddan-aram to preserve his life and to prevent him from marrying a Canaanite as his brother, Esau. Jacob's life is characterized by three features that God will sanctify in Jacob's experience: 1) the constant fear, 2) Jacob's lack of faith and trust in the Lord, and 3) the continual fleeing from situations (cf. Prov. 28:1; 1 John 4:18).

- 1) Fear of his mother - Gen. 27:11-13
- 2) Fear for his life - Jacob fled to Paddan-aram-Gen. 27:43-46; cf. 28:1-9
- 3) Faithless - Jacob's vow to God - Gen. 28:10-22
- 4) Faithless - Jacob's fear of Esau - Gen. 32:11-12
- 5) Fleeing from Esau - Gen. 27:43-46; cf. 28:1-9
- 6) Fleeing from uncle Laban - Gen. 31:1-22
- 7) Fleeing - Jacob's fear of Shechem and the potential consequence for himself - Gen. 34:5, 30.

Genesis 35 provides the account of God confronting Jacob's fear, faith, and fleeing. God challenges Jacob to purify himself, by grace, of the idolatrous practices that hinder complete faith.

Outline of text:

1. The *call* of the Lord to *construct* an altar. Genesis 35:1

AMITY BIBLE CHURCH

“To Know God and To Make Him Known”

- a. Claim on your life
- b. Construction of an altar requires a sacrifice

Life Application:

2. The *collective* comply with the *call* of the Lord. Genesis 35:2

- a. Callings demand a cleansing
 - 1) Put away (*su[®]r*) the foreign gods which are among you v.2

Fact #1 - Turn

Departing/turning away is the process of sacrificing the self-serving desires or will of your heart in exchange for the will of God.

- 2) Purify (*tvaœhar*) - “to clean, wash” yourselves

Fact #2 - Purify

Authentic worship before the Lord can only occur with internal & external purity. Then, one may experience the glory & splendor of His presence (cf. Lev. 10:1-2).

- 3) Change (*chaœlaph*) your garments.

Fact #3 - Change

Involvement with impure activity taints the entirety of your existence; therefore, when you change clothes, it symbolizes the changing of behavior.

- b. Cleansing is the preparation for Bethel

Garments reveal two primary aspects about individuals:

- 1) Identifier- communicates to others who you are
- 2) Indicator- communicates to others where you have been and what you have been doing

AMITY BIBLE CHURCH

"To Know God and To Make Him Known"

Purification Requirements:

- 1) Bathing the body - Lev. 14:8-9
- 2) Washing the clothes
- 3) Shaving
- 4) Washing hands & feet - Exod. 30:18-21
- 5) Sprinkling with blood and water - Exodus 24:5-8; Psa. 26:6; 51:7; Ezek. 36:25; Heb. 9:19; 10:22; Num. 8:7
- 6) Sexual intercourse - Exodus 19:10-15

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For He hath founded upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? v. 4 He who has clean hands, & a pure heart; who does not lift up his soul to what is false, nor sworn deceitfully. v. 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation." Psalm 24:1-5

Life Application:

Impact Fact: By grace, renew your dedication to the Lord today by turning, purifying, and changing your garments, so you may experience authentic worship.