

Maps Used with permission from Dr. Terry C. Hulbert

How Firm a Foundation

Lesson Five: The Jacobsons
Chapters 29-30, 34-35, 37-38

Go to

www.stronghands10.com
for audio and notes.



Who was the first audience of the book of Genesis?

The Israelites in the Sinai Wilderness

How many recorded instances did God communicate with Abraham?

Seven

Where was the first place Abram built an altar when he entered Canaan?

Shechem

What oak tree was in that place?

Oak of Moreh

Where did Abram buy a burial place for Sarah?

Hebron

What oak tree was in that place?

Oak of Mamre

Who named Ishmael?

God told Hagar the name.

Who named Isaac?

God told Abraham the name.

How old was Isaac when he married Rebekah?

40 years old

How old was Isaac when the twins were born?

60 years old

Where did both Abraham and Isaac make an oath by a well?

Beersheba

Where did Jacob see the dream of the ladder and angels?

Bethel

What relationship was Laban to Jacob?

His uncle.



"The land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants." (28:13)

Jacob flees from Esau, traveling to Laban in Padan Aram – Mesopotamia. (28)

Reuben Simeon Levi Judah Issachar Zebulun Joseph Ben

Gad Asher Dan Naphtali



Leah

Zilpah

Bilhah

Rachel

Jacob (Isra-el)

Rebekah



Isaac

Sarah



Abraham

Esau
Ishmael
Lot

Planted in the land!

- Believed that what God said was so.
- Believed God would reward him.
- Acted on it before he saw it happen.

Rooted in faith in the ONE, TRUE God, maker of heaven and earth.

“Through your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed”



After an absence of twenty years, Jacob returns to the land, stopping at Shechem with his large family. (33:17- ch. 34)

W



Site of Shechem (center, between Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Ebal)



After a period at Shechem (where he dug a well), Jacob leads his family to Bethel and then to Hebron. (34, 35)



Jacob sends Joseph to Shechem to report on his brothers' welfare. Not finding them there, he was directed to the Plain of Dothan where they were said to be pasturing their flocks. (38:12-17)

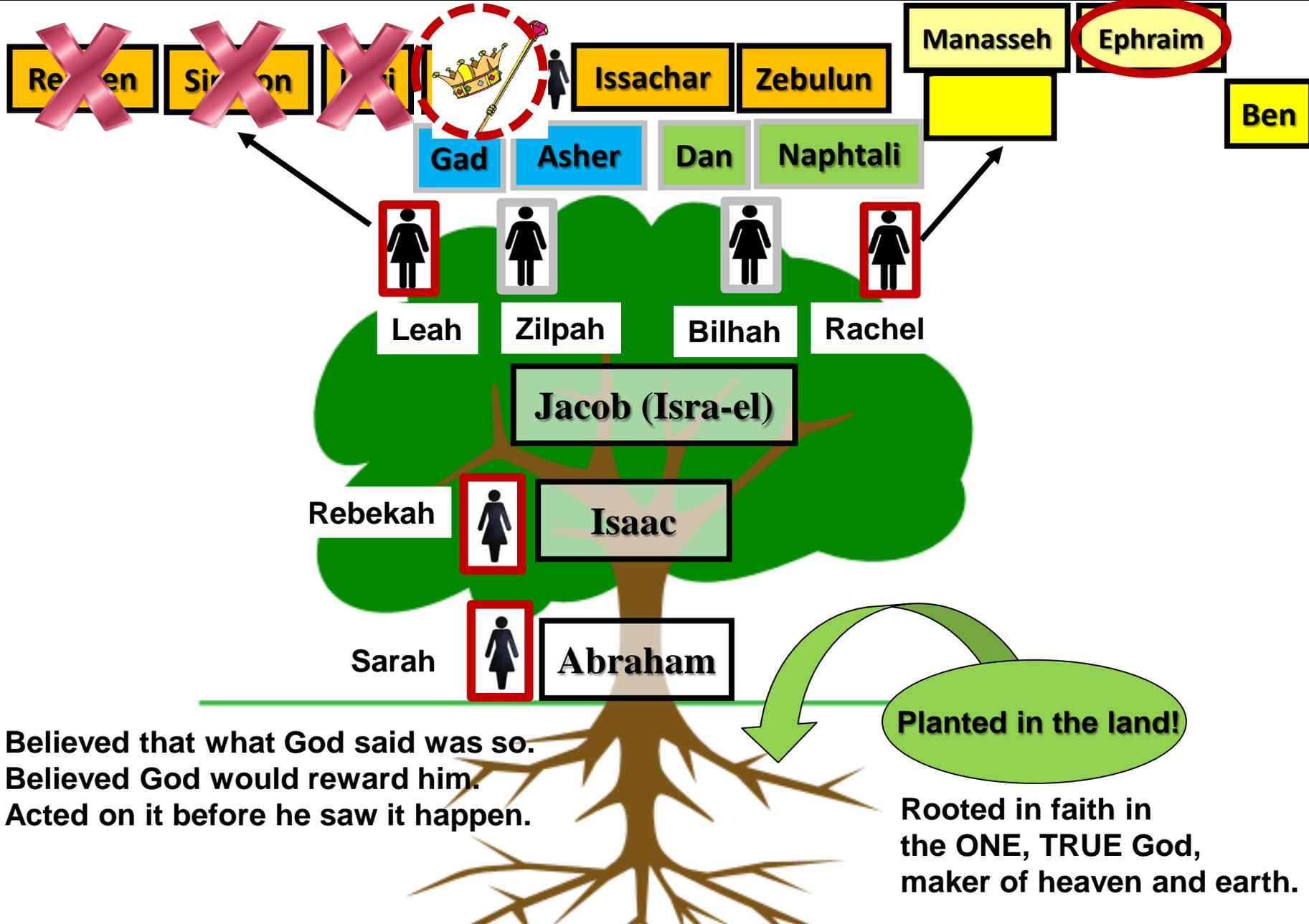
Joseph

“His brothers went to pasture their flocks in Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph . . . ‘Come, and I will send you to them.’ . . . So he sent him from the valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. ‘. . . I am looking for my brothers . . .’ Then the man said, ‘They have gone from here, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’”

“Behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites was coming from Gilead with their camels bearing aromatic gum and balm and myrrh on their way to bring tem down to Egypt.”

“. . .so they lifted Joseph out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. Thus they brought Joseph into Egypt.”

-- 37:12-28



- Believed that what God said was so.
- Believed God would reward him.
- Acted on it before he saw it happen.

Planted in the land!

Rooted in faith in the ONE, TRUE God, maker of heaven and earth.

“Through your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed”

“Do not say in your heart when the LORD your God has driven them out before you, ‘Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,’ but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is dispossessing them before you. ⁵ It is not for your righteousness or for the uprightness of your heart that you are going to possess their land, but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your God is driving them out before you, in order to confirm the oath which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

⁶ “Know, then, it is not because of your righteousness that the LORD your God is giving you this good land to possess, for you are a stubborn people.

Deuteronomy 9:4-6

By the end of Genesis, what do we have?

- **Seventy members of a “messy” family—all of them have come out of Abraham’s foundation of faith in the ONE, TRUE Creator-God. All of them will be used to form the structure of the nation.**
- **From the human level we see favoritism, sibling jealousy, hate, envy, deception, and a natural push for leadership within the family—especially between Judah and Joseph.**
- **God will use even these natural failings to bring his blessing to all nations.**

TWO RESPONSES

From a rebellious heart toward God—

”It doesn’t matter what I do because God is big and is going to work it all out.” (deceptive conclusion)

From a longing heart toward God—

”If God can work His plan through a family like that, there is hope for me and my family.”

He saved us, **not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness**, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; ²⁷ but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no man may boast before God.

I Corinthians 1:26-29