

**SERIES TITLE:** Disguised

**PART 8:** GOD'S JUSTICE

**TEXT:** GENESIS 34

**INTRODUCTION.**

Genesis follows the work of God, moving from creation, to the entrance of sin, to judgment, to the selection of a family through which the nations will be blessed. The promises of God to Abraham were passed to Isaac, and now to his son Jacob. His story takes up half of the book of Genesis. Jacob is not an admirable character, but God is gracious.

**DISCUSSION.**

Have you ever defended someone from harm or had someone defend you? What was that like?

**EXAMINATION.**

34:1-4 Does the text clearly present Dinah as a victim and Shechem as the victimizer? Why or why not?

34:5-12 What words would you use to describe the reactions of each of the following:

- Jacob?
- His sons?
- Hamor?
- Shechem?

34:13-29 What was the motivation for Jacob's sons to do what they did?

- What was the motivation for Hamor, Shechem, and their men to get circumcised?

34:30-31 This is the first time Jacob speaks in this chapter. What do you think of his words?

**APPLICATION.**

- Of these two reactions to evil, do you find one of them more "acceptable" or understandable than the other? Why or why not?
- Romans 13 tells us to submit to governing authorities, because God puts them in place for our good. Since human justice cannot be perfect, how should Christians respond when the justice system fails?

- The teaching of Romans 12:17-21 deals with not taking revenge, or responding to evil with evil. How should this truth be applied in our personal lives, and in what way is it applicable in a wider context?
- How does the cross of Christ provide an answer for those who have been treated unjustly?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?