

January 30-Genesis 30

Genesis speaks a great deal about God. It begins with the story of God the creator as we learn about how God simply spoke and everything came into being. We read about God's judgment in the story of Noah, we see God's faithfulness in the story of Abraham and Isaac, and Genesis shows us God's love in His desire to bless humanity in the covenants He made with Abraham that through his offspring all nations would be blessed. God is truly incredible and multifaceted. He does create, judge, and sustain, but in addition to those truths we can also surmise from Genesis that God is truly personal.

As we have already discussed, Jacob desired to have Rachel as his wife but was tricked into first taking Rachel's sister Leah. Eventually, Jacob also marries Rachel (not uncommon in those days) but Rachel was not able to have any children while Leah provided Jacob with several sons. Having children was a major issue in the days of Jacob and so a wife who was not able to conceive was frowned upon greatly. As Rachel advances in life, the odds increase that she will not provide for Jacob a descendant. Yet, in verse 22 we read that God "remembered" Rachel and opened her womb so that she could have a son.

Isn't this great? I can think of no more incredible reality than to think about the fact that God (the creator of the entire universe) remembers small and fragile individuals like Rachel or even me. King David wrote about this wonderful reality when he wrote in Psalm 8:4 "Who is man that you are mindful of him?" David is saying what we all should be saying, how in the world does God care about us? We are so small and insignificant in comparison to Him. Our lives span just a few decades while His spans forever, our thoughts are limited to small portions of the life we live while God knows all, we are capable of only being awake a few hours at a time before needing rest while God never needs rest, We work months to create a small home to live in while God simply speaks to create EVERYTHING. Truly, we are pale in comparison to God and yet He remembers and cares us!

Of course, the greatest example of God's love and remembrance of us is in the incarnation of Christ. As God remembered us, He sent His Son to be Emmanuel or "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Jesus is the ultimate proof that God is mindful of us. He is the evidence that God loves and cares for you and me. Jesus shows us once and for all that God loves and desires to have relationship with us. I want to challenge you today to remember this fact. Take advantage of this reality and make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:6). Remember that God is near (Philippians 4:5) and trust that He is mindful of you as a son or daughter of His. Do not hesitate to bring your troubles and concerns before our God. Not only is He a mighty creator, He is also a loving father!