

Gripped by Fear

June 26, 2011
Genesis 32:1-21

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)
Pastor Mark Turner

Situation: between Laban & Esau...

Gen 27:45

I. Vision & Messengers – The Lessons

- God's Encouragement (our encouragement Psalms 34:7-8) 1-2
- Messengers are sent to Esau 3-6
- Why Response of Fear 7-8

Jacob/Laban

J believed he lived upright life before L
God had blessed
J stole nothing from L
Did what was right
Relied on his righteousness Gen 31:42

Jacob/Esau

J afraid before E because of evil done
God could not bless could He?
J stole birthright from E
Did not act honorably towards E
Demonstrated no righteousness

But we are NO different! This is an Example: 1 Cor 10:11

- our lives are full of sin
- our lives may have some righteousness but for naught (Isaiah 64:6)
- Christ's Imputed Righteousness is our only Hope! 2 Cor 5:21; Eph 1:1-10

II. Jacob's Prayer - The Lessons

- a. Acknowledge the True Covenant Keeping God 9
 - God's character & covenant is all we have!
 - Can't rely on our own righteousness - Isaiah 64:6
- b. Confess YOUR Own Unworthiness 10
 - A true confession - like centurion (Mt 8:5-10) or tax-collector (Lk 18:10)
 - Come to God depending upon His Mercy! Ex 34:6-7
- c. Remind God of His Past Faithfulness & Blessings 10b
 - Acknowledge God is only source of your good or success
 - Know Grace, PURE GRACE!
- d. Present Your Petition 11
 - Reality of living in Fallen World: we have needs
 - Prayer, faith & Action (prays, divides camp)
- e. Remind God of His Faithfulness 12
 - God seems to love being reminded of His Gracious Promises!
 - Pray His promises (Matthew Henry: A Method for Prayer)

Example: Facing Difficult & Fearful Situation - Know God has Promised:

- Perseverance to His own Jn 10:27-30
- To be with you always Mt 28:20
- That NO temptation will overpower you, He will provide escape 1 Cor 10:13
- When we are weak, we have strength in Christ Eph 2:4-7

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