

- 8) The Lord had promised to watch over Jacob and bring him back to Palestine.
 - 9) The Lord knew that Laban could harm Jacob, so God does what he had promised to Jacob and protects Jacob.
- g. Second meeting with Laban (31:25-42)
- 1) Laban gets to ~~where~~^{where} Jacob is and he camps there.
 - 2) He knows he can only do so much and so he says to Jacob, "Why did you leave so suddenly? You didn't allow me to kiss my girls or grandchildren goodbye. You just went on your way. And besides, you stole my gods."
 - 3) Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen his gods.
 - 4) Jacob says, "I didn't steal your gods. You go search everything I have."
 - 5) And Laban did, but he couldn't find them because Rachel had hidden them.
 - 6) Jacob said, "Do you want to know why I didn't tell you when I was leaving? Because I knew exactly what you would do. You would send me away empty."
- h. Covenantal witness (31:43-55)
- 1) And then Laban looked at Jacob and said, "You've got my girls, grandchildren and possession. And I can't do anything to you. So let's make a covenant."
 - 2) They piled up stones and the covenant was that Jacob would not marry anybody else, he wouldn't mistreat them and Jacob wouldn't go east past that pile of stones to where Laban was and do him any harm and Laban wouldn't go west past that pile of stones to Jacob to do him any harm.
 - 3) That pile of stones was given both an Aramaic and Hebrew name probably was that was the linguistic frontier where they stopped speaking Aramaic and started speaking Hebrew.
 - 4) This heap of stones was a witness to the covenant Jacob and Laban had made.
 - 5) The covenant only came about because ~~of~~^{of} the Lord's intervention.
 - 6) Laban spent the night and then he went back home.
 - 7) Jacob then leaves them and goes to Mahanaim.
- iv. Reunion with Esau (32-33)
- a. Jacob's plan of appeasement (32:1-23)
- 1) When he comes to Mahanaim, he sends messengers to Esau.
 - 2) He says, "Go tell Esau that I would like him to receive me favorably and tell me what he says."