

Genesis 33

King James Version (KJV)

33 And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.

²And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindermost. (It's not good to show favoritism for some of his own wives and children. He was using his handmaids and their children as human shields for Leah, Rachel, and their children. This is pathetic behavior on Jacob's part)

³And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. (He's still over doing it. No one likes a wimp. He should stand like a man and face his brother)

⁴And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept. (Obviously, Esau had forgiven him. Jacob should have trusted God more than he did. All that worrying was for nothing)

⁵And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant. (This guy needs to stop calling himself a servant)

⁶Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves.

⁷And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves.

⁸And he said, What meanest thou by all this drove which I met? And he said, These are to find grace in the sight of my lord.

⁹And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; keep that thou hast unto thyself. (Esau wasn't looking for presents)

¹⁰And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found grace in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand: for therefore I have seen thy face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me. (Jacob is happy that they are finally getting along)

¹¹ Take, I pray thee, my blessing that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it. (In those days, it would have been an insult to refuse a gift)

¹² And he said, Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee. (To ensure that Jacob's family will get there safely)

¹³ And he said unto him, My lord knoweth that the children are tender, and the flocks and herds with young are with me: and if men should overdrive them one day, all the flock will die. (Jacob has women and children with him. He needs to travel slowly and take rests often)

¹⁴ Let my lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant: and I will lead on softly, according as the cattle that goeth before me and the children be able to endure, until I come unto my lord unto Seir. (Jacob wants to travel slowly; not trying to keep up with Esau's marching army)

¹⁵ And Esau said, Let me now leave with thee some of the folk that are with me. And he said, What needeth it? let me find grace in the sight of my lord. (Esau wants to at least leave a few guides, because they know the way and they know where to find water. Jacob wants no part of it. He prefers to lead his family)

¹⁶ So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir.

¹⁷ And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. (Succoth = booths)

¹⁸ And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padanaram; and pitched his tent before the city. (Shalem = safe, or safety; Shechem = the back or backbone)

¹⁹ And he bought a parcel of a field, where he had spread his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for an hundred pieces of money. (He bought the land and held the deed – smart)

²⁰ And he erected there an altar, and called it EleloheIsrael. (EleloheIsrael = the God of Israel)

(Jacob never forgot to worship and thank God for his blessings)

