Ya'aqov Serves 6 Years, Flees, Sends Gifts, & Wrestles

Genesis 30:24-32:32

Reading Questions

1. Who are Ya'aqov’s brothers in Genesis 31:46 and 31:54?

Reading Answers

1. I speculate this is referring to Lavan and his other relatives on that side of the family, not his literal brother from his father Yitschaq’s lineage, since Esaw is his only brother in that sense. We see even then "brother" can be a looser term used generally referring to relatives sometimes. It’s also possible this is not referring to Lavan or Lavan’s relatives because in Genesis 31:37 he says “my brothers and your brothers” indicating that Ya’aqov’s brothers were not the same as Lavan’s brothers. If that is the case, then this would have to be referring to possibly just all the men of the company of people who were with him, or possibly just his sons.

Reading Notes

- We can see from Genesis 31:12 that יהוה sees all that is done to us. He will come to our defense. We do not have to worry or be afraid. He will deliver us!

- We can see the humility of Ya’aqov in Genesis 32:10 where he says he does not deserve what he has, and how he humbles himself before his brother Esaw to appease him. This, especially Genesis 32:20, reminds me of Proverbs 18:16.

- We can see that Ya’aqov highly valued having the blessing of Elohiym as we see from Genesis 32:26 he would not let go until he was blessed.

- According to the Ancient Hebrew Revised Mechanical Translation, in Genesis 31:47 Yegar-Sa’haduta means “Fear of a witness” and Galeyd means “Mound of witness”. Also, in Genesis 31:49, Hamitspah means “Watchtower”.

Related Verses

Enemies At Peace With Us: Proverbs 16:7
Gifts: Proverbs 18:16
Why Do You Ask My Name: Judges 13:18
Wrestles With Messenger: Hosea 12:4