



Isaac sent his son Jacob to take a wife from the daughters of Laban. Laban deceives Jacob and he ends up with two wives. This study looks at the life of his second wife, Rachel.

1. Read Genesis 29:1-12. Set the scene for Jacob and Rachel's first meeting. How do you see God behind the scenes?
2. Read Genesis 29:15-20. Think of today's culture and media's influences on women. Name at least four things the world assumes women want. How did Rachel "have it all"?
3. Read Genesis 29:21-30. Describe Jacob's love for Rachel? What was Jacob willing to do to have Rachel as his wife?
4. Rachel was forced to have to share her husband with her sister. How was this forced on her? (To refresh your memory read Genesis 29:18-28.
5. Read Genesis 30:1-9. We learn that Rachel is barren in Genesis 29:31. What does Rachel say about it? Would you say that she was a product of her circumstances or her choices? Explain your answer.





6. Comment on Rachel's treatment of both Jacob and Leah. What did Rachel do to try to "get even"?

7. What do we learn about Rachel's heart at the naming of Bilah's sons? What is her attitude toward God?

8. How did God use Rachel's actions to fulfill His purposes? (Check Genesis 28:10-17 specifically verse 14 for your answer.) What are your thoughts on this?

9. Read Genesis 30:14-16. Find out what a mandrake is either on the Internet or in a dictionary. What do you find out? What was Rachel doing and what does this say about the quality of her love for Jacob?

10. How many sons were born to Jacob up to verse 30:21. How many are Rachel's? What is the name of Rachel's first son, what is her heart attitude at his birth? What do you know about this son?

Genesis 30:25 – 33:20 gives us the story of Jacob's departure from Laban and his reunion with his brother Esau.

11. Read Genesis 31:19-35. What does this event tell you about Rachel and Jacob's marriage?





12. Read Genesis 35:16-20. What happened? What does the name Rachel give to her second son say about her state of mind? What name did Jacob give to this son?

13. Beauty is skin deep. Do you think this statement is a good description of Rachel's life? Explain your answer.

14. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. What did Rachel lack?

15. What personal applications can you make to your own life from your study of Rachel?

There is no doubt that Rachel was beautiful and Jacob favored her. Jacob fell in love with her at first sight and wanted her as his wife from the beginning. When we read her story we begin to say to ourselves, "That's not fair!" However, at a closer look we remember that God is in control of all circumstances. Rachel made some choices that showed she really did not trust Him at all.

"Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord shall be praised." Proverbs 31:30

Next we study the story of Tamar found in Genesis 38.

