

Genesis 33

Read Genesis 33:1-17 : It is so sad that Jacob prioritized who he loved the least to meet Esau first. He kept his favorite wife, Rachel to the back of the pack. There is nothing like knowing where you stand with people.

Esau was no longer mad at Jacob. He missed him. Esau also told Jacob that his gifts of livestock accompanying each entourage were not necessary. Esau said that he already had enough. Jacob insisted, because he was worried to death about Esau seeking retribution.

Esau was ready to pilot Jacob back to his own home in Mount Seir with his 400 men. Jacob did not say that he was going back to Canaan. Instead, he used the excuse that his young lambs in the flock and children who required a slower pace. He promised to catch up to him later at Mount Seir. Esau agreed but wanted to leave group of men to guard him. Jacob insisted that it was not necessary.

Jacob arrived at Succoth and made corrals for his livestock. This was in Jordan.

Read Genesis 33:18-20: Now Jacob proceeds to Shechem, which is in Israel. Shechem is where God first appeared to Abraham. Perhaps Jacob wanted to meet God. His parents are still alive; but he does not go home.

Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12)

Jacob bought land in Shechem from the locals (Hamor); and he erected an altar to God. He called it the God of Israel. Jacob was connecting with God and coming back to his roots.