

Jacob Returned to His Father, Isaac: Confronting and Overcoming Trial After Trial Genesis 35:16—29

1. *The death of Jacob's wife*

- a. Rachel's death:
A difficult time
- 1) During childbirth:
Suffered hard labour
 - 2) Expressed in naming her son
Benoni:
But Jacob named him Benjamin
 - 3) Died:
Buried close to Bethlehem
 - 4) Jacob honoured her
- b. Jacob overcame:
By journeying as Israel
(Striving with God)

2. *The sin of Jacob's son*

- a. Reuben's sin: Incest
- b. Jacob overcame:
By hearing about the sin
in the name of Israel

3. *The responsibility for Jacob's children*

- a. The twelve sons
- 1) Leah's sons
 - 2) Rachel's sons
 - 3) Bilhah's sons

- 16 Then they moved on from Bethel.
While they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty.
- 17 And as she was having great difficulty in childbirth, the midwife said to her, "Don't despair, for you have another son."
- 18 As she breathed her last — for she was dying — she named her son Benoni.
But his father named him Benjamin.
- 19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).
- 20 Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb.
- 21 Israel moved on again and pitched his tent beyond Migdal Eder.
- 22 While Israel was living in that region, Reuben went in and slept with his father's concubine Bilhah, and Israel heard of it.
Jacob had twelve sons:
- 23 The sons of Leah:
Reuben the first-born of Jacob, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar and Zebulun.
- 24 The sons of Rachel:
Joseph and Benjamin.
- 25 The sons of Rachel's servant Bilhah:
Dan and Naphtali.

<p>4) Zilpah's sons</p> <p>b. Jacob overcame: By obeying God — returning to the promised land, his great spiritual heritage</p> <p>4. <i>The death of Jacob's father</i></p> <p>a. Isaac died at age 180, and he joined his people in eternity</p> <p>b. Jacob overcame: By reconciling with Esau and burying their father together</p>	<p>26 The sons of Leah's servant Zilpah: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob, who were born to him in Paddan Aram.</p> <p>27 Jacob came home to his father Isaac in Mamre, near Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had stayed.</p> <p>28 Isaac lived a hundred and eighty years.</p> <p>29 Then he breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people, old and full of years. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.</p>
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