

Genesis 34: 1-20; 35:1-29

Jacob is always getting in himself in trouble by trying to solve his problems by himself instead of relying on the Lord. God gets him out of these troubles. In chapter 34, Jacob moves out of the picture.

- 1 ¶ **And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.** Remember Jacob moved here but God didn't tell him to go here, He told Jacob to go to Bethel. Think when you raised your own children and they get old enough to go out and see the world for themselves.
- 2 **And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her.** The head man of this whole area, his son has taken a liking to Dinah. He defiled her before marriage.
- 3 **And his soul clave to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spoke kindly to the damsel.** He courted her, fell in love with her. They weren't supposed to be here, remember.
- 4 **And Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, Get me this damsel to wife.** The son told his dad to get her and make her his bride.
- 5 **And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come.** Jacob finds out and keeps his peace. He is a peace-loving guy. Notice how the Christians handle this issue and how the pagans handle it. In this case, the pagans were right.
- 6 ¶ **And Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to commune with him.**
- 7 **And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done.** Jacob and his men were mad that the son had slept with Jacob's daughter before marriage.
- 8 **And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife.** The son wants to the honorable thing and marry her.
- 9 **And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters to us, and take our daughters to you.**
- 10 **And ye shall dwell with us: and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein.** The pagans invite Jacob and family to stay with them. Hamor knows Jacob is rich, and tries to get Jacob to stay.
- 11 **And Shechem said to her father and to her brethren, Let me find grace in your eyes, and what ye shall say to me I will give.** The son is madly in love with Dinah and is trying to bargain with Jacob.
- 12 **Ask me never so much dowry and gift, and I will give according as ye shall say to me: but give me the damsel to wife.** The son will pay anything to have Dinah for his wife.
- 13 **And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully, and said, because he had defiled Dinah their sister:** Jacob conjures up a plan without the Lord's advice, again.
- 14 **And they said to them, We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised; for that were a reproach to us:** Jacob says he can't give his daughter to an uncircumcised heathen.
- 15 **But in this will we consent to you: If ye will be as we be, that every male of you be circumcised;** Jacob says if you and all your men get circumcised, we'll talk about giving her to you.
- 16 **Then will we give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people.** When we're all circumcised we'll all look alike and be the same.
- 17 **But if ye will not hearken to us, to be circumcised; then will we take our daughter, and we will be gone.** Men do circumcision all the time these days. Man has taken something set aside for God's people and turned into something else. It is God's sign of separation from the rest of the world and they are dangling it front of heathen like a carrot to get their own way. They use His word for gain of wealth, power, and whatever they want. It is still done today, especially by TV ministries.

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- 18 ¶ **And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son.** The heathen were agreeable with the deal.
- 19 **And the young man deferred not to do the thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter: and he *was* more honorable than all the house of his father.** The son was honest and said "ok, let's go. Let's do this thing right away." He was so in love with Dinah.
- 20 **And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city, and communed with the men of their city, saying,**
- 21 **These men *are* peaceable with us; therefore let them dwell in the land, and trade therein; for the land, behold, *it is* large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters.** Hamor makes a presentation to the public. Let's do this business deal and we'll have their daughters for our wives and we'll make money on it, too. Everybody will prosper.
- 22 **Only herein will the men consent to us for to dwell with us, to be one people, if every male among us be circumcised, as they *are* circumcised.** Hamor says there is one catch: every man has to be circumcised.
- 23 ***Shall* not their cattle and their substance and every beast of theirs *be* ours? Only let us consent to them, and they will dwell with us.** They are thinking of the business deal. Let's do this and get wealthy.
- 24 **And to Hamor and to Shechem his son hearkened all that went out of the gate of his city; and every male was circumcised, all that went out of the gate of his city.** They all agreed to it and all the men were circumcised.
- 25 ¶ **And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brethren, took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly, and slew all the males.** Three days of healing went on, and two sons of Jacob and killed all the men when they were vulnerable and healing from the circumcisions. They killed all the men and took their vengeance for the premarital sex.
- 26 **And they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went out.** They killed the king, the son, took their daughter and left.
- 27 **The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and spoiled the city, because they had defiled their sister.**
- 28 **They took their sheep, and their oxen, and their asses, and that which *was* in the city, and that which *was* in the field,** They took all their animals, everything in the city, all their wealth.
- 29 **And all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives took they captive, and spoiled even all that *was* in the house.** They took all the women and children and everything in their houses. They made slaves out of the women and children.
- 30 **And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I *being* few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.** Boys, let me tell you what you've done. You've stirred up all the Canaanites into anger and brought them against us. Have you ever had one of your children stir up trouble in the neighborhood and everyone then hates your whole family.
- 31 **And they said, Should he deal with our sister as with an harlot?** The boys say, "Hey dad, what do we do now?" God didn't give them the right to destroy these people. Back then the women had no right to choose whom they married. The fathers made business deals on marriage. Daughters were used as a commodity to join wealthy families and increase wealth and power. It's the same way for women in the Muslim world today. Under Muslim law today you cannot execute a virgin. So virgins in jail are married off to the guards, raped, and executed in the morning.
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