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## **Back To Bethel**

### **Genesis 33-36**



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**Renewal Begins  
With Return**

# Genesis 33:4-11

**4 But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. 5 And when Esau lifted up his eyes and saw the women and children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." 6 Then the servants drew near, they and their children, and bowed down. 7 Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down. And last Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down.**

# Genesis 33:4-11

**<sup>8</sup> Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor in the sight of my lord." <sup>9</sup> But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." <sup>10</sup> Jacob said, "No, please, if I have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand. For I have seen your face, which is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. <sup>11</sup> Please accept my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." Thus he urged him, and he took it.**

# Genesis 35:1

**<sup>1</sup> God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau."**

# Genesis 35:11-15

**<sup>11</sup> And God said to him, "I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body. <sup>12</sup> The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you." <sup>13</sup> Then God went up from him in the place where he had spoken with him. <sup>14</sup> And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it. <sup>15</sup> So Jacob called the name of the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.**

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**You are welcomed home.**



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**Renewal Requires Removal**

# Genesis 35:2-4

**<sup>2</sup> So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments. <sup>3</sup> Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone." <sup>4</sup> So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that they had, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree that was near Shechem.**

**What do you need removed in  
your life?**

# John 15:1-4

**"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.  
2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.**



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**Renewal Provides Identity**

# Genesis 35:9-11

**<sup>9</sup> God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. <sup>10</sup> And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. <sup>11</sup> And God said to him, "I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body.**

# Ephesians 4:20-24

**<sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!— <sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.**

**What identity are you living?**

**God's greatest work isn't always  
in changing your circumstances,  
it's in changing you.**

# NEXT STEPS

- I will examine my life for any distractions or idols and take steps to remove or minimize them.
- I will surrender \_\_\_\_\_ to God and trust him with the outcome.
- I want to come home for spiritual renewal.