

Sermon Outline: The Reform & Testing of Jacob

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I. The Enduring blessings of the Covenant are gifts of God's grace

1. Renewal at Bethel

Jacob -- Resolved to worship the true God in the place of his promise- renewal of the vow made in 28:20-22

This included the reformation of religious practices

This included the renewal of Jacob's name and the promises of the covenant

2. Blessings in the face of sin and death

Benjamin is born completing the Twelve tribal heads

A human/satanic attempt to subvert the covenant promise

While Israel lived in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine. And Israel heard of it.

Genesis 49:2-4

Lessons:

A. God is faithful

Romans 3

3 What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? 4 By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written,

“That you may be justified in your words,
and prevail when you are judged.”

God has a plan for the salvation of the world! Elect- Vast multitude!

II. The prosperity of the wicked who are not spiritually enduring members of God's covenant.

Chapter 36 teaches about Esau!

He is a man of blood- conquered Mt. Seir, became rich and powerful by conquest! Married the women by force!

Esau is Edom! Vs. 1, 8, 19, 43

Edom is the enemy of Israel forever!

Edom is the enemy of Christ!