

CHAPTER ANALYSIS FORM

Chapter: 35,36

Chapter Title: Jacob moves, Esau's family

1. Chapter Summary:

1. Chapter 35

- a. Jacob moves to Bethel 1-7
- b. Deborah dies 8
- c. God appears 9-15
- d. Rachel dies 16-20
- e. Israel's sons 21-26
- f. Isaac dies 27-29

2. Chapter 36

- a. Esau's descendants 1-43

2. Observation		3. Interpretation	
What Does It Say?		What Does It Mean?	
Verse		Verse	
	Chapter 35		
1-7	Jacob told to move to Bethel and build an altar. He tells his family to get rid of all their foreign gods. They do so and move to Bethel. God protects them from the surrounding tribes. They arrive and Jacob builds an altar.	1-7	The content of these verses imply that the family move to Bethel was in response to the actions of Simeon and Levi. God protects, as he has been all along, and they are not attacked by tribes that had surely heard what had happened. It's interesting that the family members still have their pet gods. It's like they're saying, "We believe God but we are going to hedge our bets. A little insurance never hurts." Don't we do that as Christians. "Sure, I believe, but you have to be practical. I have faith in God but I need to make sure that me and mine have what we need. All that faith and trust stuff is pie in the sky – you need to be a hard-headed realist and realize it's up to you to take care of your family." What's more practical than trusting the Creator of the Universe and the one that brought you salvation? What's more realistic than following his Word?
8	Deborah, Rebecca's nurse, dies.	8	Deborah may have been sent to Jacob by Rebekah or, possibly, she came after Rebekah died. She was honored and well-thought of as the place she was buried was called the "oak of weeping."
9-15	God speaks to Jacob again and reiterates his name change to Israel. God also repeats the promise and the charge he made to Abraham and Isaac. Jacob sets a memorial stone and offers a drink offering.	9-15	Jacob is taken back to the place he first encountered God in dream. God once again gives him a promise and a charge – the same ones he gave to his ancestors. Do we revisit the places God has met with us in a special way; even if only in memory? Do we recall his very precious promises by remembering their appearance in our lives in the past? Do we reaffirm our attachment to His promise and His charge as a result? Do we worship Him in spirit and in truth because of what He has done for us?

16-20	Rachel dies giving birth to Benjamin. She was buried near Bethlehem as Israel was moving to another area.	16-20	Ben-Oni – son of my sorrow. Benjamin – son of my right hand (strength). Joseph’s name means “May He add” and at his birth Rachel had proclaimed, “May the LORD add to me another son.” He did. We will see Bethlehem Ephrath again in the Bible.
21-26	Reuben sleeps with his father’s concubine.	21-26	Even before the Law is given Reuben has committed an evil and wicked act. An act that eventually leads to his loss of position as the first born. We have discussed that God’s will is going to be accomplished. How many times in our life has his will been accomplished by another in our place because of our sin?
27-29	Jacob meets with Isaac. Isaac dies and is buried by Esau and Jacob.	27-29	A pattern that repeats the death of Abraham – divided families reunite out of respect for their father.

<https://www.bible-history.com/maps/8-jacobs-journeys.html>

2. Observation		3. Interpretation	
What Does It Say?		What Does It Mean?	
Verse		Verse	
	Chapter 36		
1-43	This chapter is a list of the sons and chiefs of Edom	1-43	<p>Personal question – what is the purpose of the genealogies in the OT?</p> <p>The Bible says Esau went to Seir because his flocks and his brothers were too large to stay in proximity. Whatever the reason, Esau leaves Canaan to which Jacob returns. God’s will is going to be accomplished.</p> <p>There was a short list of Jacob’s sons in the previous chapter. This list may be included as a nod to Esau because his descendants do not have a direct impact on the further story of the Bible whereas Jacob’s sons are deeply intertwined in that story.</p>

4. Correlation		5. Application
Where Else Is It Explained?		What Will I Do About It?
Verse		
	Chapter 35	
1-7	Genesis 28:15, 19	
8	Genesis 24:59	
9-15	Genesis 12:7; 17:5; 48:4 Hebrews 11:9	
16-20	Genesis 30:24; 48:7 Ruth 4:11 Micah 5:2	
21-26	Genesis 46:8; 49:4	
27-29	Genesis 25:8-9	

4. Correlation		5. Application
Where Else Is It Explained?		What Will I Do About It?
Verse		
	Chapter 36	
1-43		

6. Conclusions

7. One Personal Application