INTRODUCTION

- Jacob meets his 2nd cousin, Rachel, falls in love, serves 14 years to marry her, AND ends up marrying her sister first because of treachery by her dad. Will the Soap Opera ever end?

Jacob Arrives at Uncle Laban’s House

- Jacob’s trip from Beersheba to Haran……………………………………. 350 miles
- A comfortable 6-hour trip by car
- A 4-day trip by bicycle
- A grueling 8-10-day trip by camel

vv14-20. After 1 month a deal is struck to serve 7 years for Rachel. Is 7 years considered a long time to wait for a girl?

Leah had weak/tender/soft eyes <07390> Strong’s

A soft <07390> answer turns away wrath” ..................... Prov 15:1

- She wasn’t considered ugly, just not as gorgeous as Rachel

But Jacob favored Rachel’s striking beauty (v17) like her great aunt Sarah. Anything wrong marrying for the looks?

Jacob had to serve 7 more years for Rachel

- God invoked 2 laws to prevent future marital woes
 1. Unlawful to marry sisters ……………………………………….. Lev 18:18
 2. Must treat wives fairly …………………………………………… Deut 21:15

Favoritism Continues to Wreak Havoc in the Home

- v31. The Lord got involved and blessed Leah.
- Principle of reversed blessings ......................... Prov 24:17-18

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Since God blessed both sisters – and their maids – with children, does God condone polygamy? How do we answer the skeptics?
- Consider This. The Bible is incredibly candid and transparent about the faults and flaws of its key figures, and God frequently works with them at their level (and at our level). For more on this, see: https://answersingenesis.org/family/marriage/what-about-polygamy-in-the-bible/

NEXT WEEK: Luke 1. Mary was going to willingly carry her Lord & Savior in her womb, and she was going to be labeled a loose woman, an adulterer, and a liar. Obedience is costly at times.