

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 02 Dec '18.....Genesis 25-27.....The Deceiver
- 2) 09 Dec.....Genesis 28.....Not Alone
- 3) 16 Dec.....Genesis 29-30.....Family?
- 4) 23 Dec.....Luke 1 – Christmas Message.....Promise Kept
- 5) 30 Dec.....Genesis 30-31.....Home!
- 6) 06 Jan '19.....Genesis 32.....Transformed
- 7) 13 Jan.....Genesis 33.....Reconciled – Sort of**
- 8) 20 Jan.....Sanctity of Life 2019.....Protect and Save
- 9) 27 Jan.....Genesis 34-36.....Assurance
- 10) 03 Feb.....Genesis 37.....Accept It
- 11) 10 Feb.....Genesis 38-39.....Tempted
- 12) 17 Feb.....Genesis 40-41.....Opportunity Knocks
- 13) 24 Feb.....Genesis 42-50.....Reunited

**INTRODUCTION**

- Esau showed grace to Jacob by running to him and embracing him like a long-lost brother, but Jacob deceived Esau one more time.
- If we were teaching principles of reconciliation this chapter would show us more of what we should not do vs what we should do

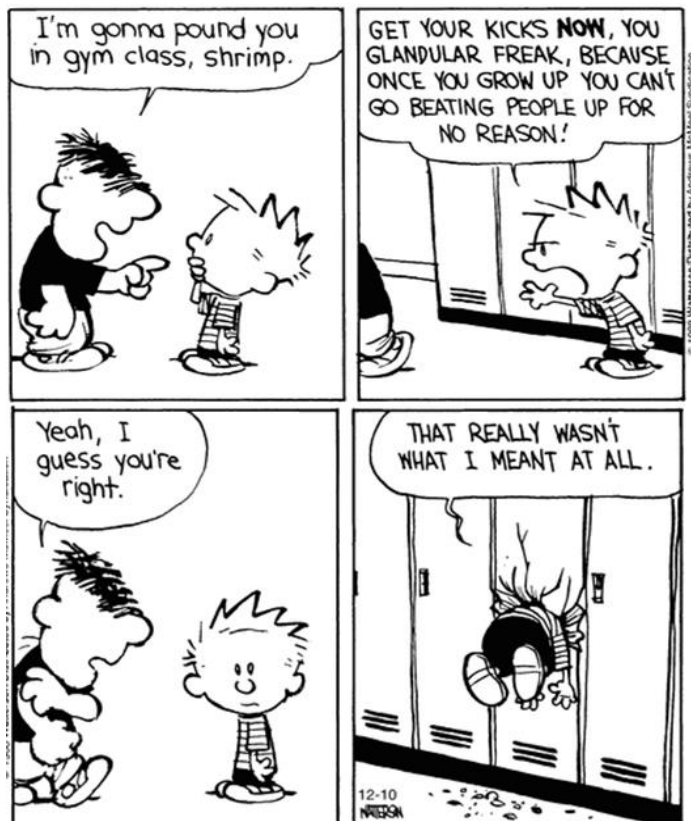
Passage	Comments
Genesis 33:1-4	<p><b>Esau Runs to Jacob</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Favoritism Can Kill.</b> The least favored wives (the handmaids) &amp; their kids were put on the front line, the first to be killed if Esau came with evil intent</li> <li>• Leah and her kids were 3<sup>rd</sup> in line to be killed</li> <li>• Rachel, the favored wife, had the most secure position in the back of the line.</li> <li>• Was Jacob being loving toward his wives &amp; kids by lining them up in this fashion? What would you have done differently? Was Jacob spiritually mature?</li> <li>• v4. Esau did not hold a grudge against Jacob and warmly welcomed the return of his long-lost brother                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Recall that Esau wanted to kill Jacob earlier for cheating him out of his family inheritance?</li> <li>♦ How come Jacob, the believer in the family, was out shown in grace by his “immoral and godless” brother, Esau? ..... <a href="#">Heb 12:16</a></li> <li>♦ <b>NOTE.</b> When we Christians fail in our duty to be a positive witness to unbelievers we actually do harm to God’s Kingdom, for we cause people to blaspheme/curse God..... <a href="#">Rom 2:24</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>SPECIAL NOTE ON RACHEL’S FAVORED STATUS:</b> Her progeny (Kids &amp; Grandkids) are recognized as the country of Israel in one particular Psalm, “Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead <b>Joseph</b> like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth before <b>Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh</b>. Awaken your might; come and save us. .... <a href="#">Psalm 80:2</a></p>	
33:5-11	<p><b>Esau Meets the Wives &amp; Kids &amp; Livestock</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Esau gets to see Jacob’s vast holdings – wives, kids, servants, and animals</li> <li>• Esau reluctantly receives Jacob’s gift (200 she goats &amp; 20 he goats, 200 ewes &amp; 20 rams, 30 milking camels &amp; their colts, forty cows &amp; 10 bulls, 20 donkeys and 10 foals). Over 100 animals – enough to make a poor man rich in a short time.</li> </ul>
33:12-15	<p><b>Esau Says, “Let’s Travel Together”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v12. Esau offers to lead his brother toward home</li> <li>• vv13,14. Jacob, however, made an excuse and basically said he would show up later at his own pace. Jacob told Esau he would meet him at Seir, BUT instead, Jacob detoured to Succoth, 100 miles away, deceiving his brother one more time.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ What should he have done?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v15a. Esau even offered to leave some of his servants behind to help Jacob. How noble.</li> <li>• v15b. Jacob politely refuses Esau’s help                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ What would Jacob be concerned about?</li> <li>♦ Presumably, Jacob wanted to avoid conflict as much as possible. Was this biblically appropriate?</li> <li>♦ Jacob still showed no intent to properly reconcile</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
33:16-20	<p><b>Jacob Says, “Fat Chance”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacob, after he detoured to Succoth, is now in the Promised Land currently inhabited by Canaanites</li> <li>• v20. Jacob sought to honor God by erecting an altar as a place of formal worship, and he named it El-elohe-Israel = “the mighty God of Israel”                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Was this an honorable thing for Jacob to do, or was he just going through the motions trying to please God?</li> <li>♦ How do we seek to honor God after He brings us safely through an ordeal? What is our “Sacrifice of Thanksgiving?” ..... <a href="#">Ps 50:23</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- The more noble person in this story was not Jacob, but his “immoral and godless” ([Heb 12:16](#)) estranged brother, Esau, who earlier wanted to kill him for stealing his birthright & inheritance
- Lack of reconciliation can cause unnecessary separation for years
- Seek reconciliation quickly – “if possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men”.....[Rom 12:18](#)
- The element of time doesn’t always heal all wounds. Often times, bitterness sits in and makes reconciliation that much harder.

**NEXT WEEK: Sanctity of Life 2019.** Genesis 9. God requires a penalty for murder. Why? Because humans are made in His image, which means every human is precious to God – and worth dying for.



RECONCILIATION PRINCIPLE #1: WHAT NOT TO DO