

## Genesis 29 • “in the Morning... It Was Leah”

*“You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless, until they find their rest in Thee”. - Augustine*

*“In every person there is a passionate, driving desire for more...The dilemma is that our longings for material joy are almost always partially blocked; our desires for better health and deeper relationships are never entirely possible; and the illusion of world peace seems no more attainable than the gold at the end of the rainbow. Our passion is more than usually stymied. The world simply does not bend to the desires that roar or whimper inside us. Our desires – from picking the quickest line at the bank to the overwhelming hope that our children will walk righteously with the Lord – are rarely satisfied in a way that relieves the ache of incompleteness...Our heart seems to rage against the ache”. Dan Allender*

*“Just as the fact that we experience thirst is proof that we are creatures for whom the drinking of water is natural, so the fact that **we desire an object that our natural world cannot supply suggests the existence of another, supernatural one**. The desire does not guarantee that we will achieve that other world (if stranded in the desert, we will die of thirst), but it does suggest that we are creatures who are capable of achieving it and who were in some sense made to achieve it”. C.S. Lewis*

*“The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not **IN** them, it only came **THROUGH** them, and what came through them was longing. These things – the beauty, the memory of our own past – are good **images of what we really desire**, but **if they are mistaken for the thing itself they turn into dumb idols, breaking the hearts of their worshippers**. For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited”. C.S. Lewis*

Genesis 3:24 **He drove out the man**, and at the **east of the garden of Eden** he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way **to guard the way to the tree of life**.

Psalms 42:1 **As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.**

*“I was lookin' for love in all the wrong places  
Lookin' for love in too many faces  
Searchin' their eyes*

*Lookin' for traces of what I'm dreaming of..."*

*Johnny Lee*

Genesis 30:1 When **Rachel** saw that she bore Jacob no children, **she envied her sister (Leah)**. She said to Jacob, "Give me children, or I shall die!"

James 4:1-3

**What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you?**

Is it not this, that **your passions are at war within you?**

**You desire and do not have**, so you murder.

**You covet and cannot obtain**, so you fight and quarrel.

**You do not have, because you do not ask.**

You ask and do not receive,

**because you ask wrongly,**

**to spend it on your passions.**

*"God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give happiness apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing."*

*C.S. Lewis*

Genesis 29:1 Then **Jacob went on his journey** and came to the land of the **people of the east**.

Genesis 29:2 As **he looked, he saw a well** in the field, and behold, **three flocks** of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. **The stone on the well's mouth was large,**

Genesis 29:3 and when **all the flocks were gathered** there, **the shepherds would roll the stone** from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and **put the stone back in its place** over the mouth of the well.

Genesis 29:4 Jacob said to them, "**My brothers (kinsman)**, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from **Haran**."

Genesis 29:5 He said to them, "**Do you know Laban** the son of Nahor?" They said, "We know him."

Genesis 29:6 He said to them, “Is it well with him?” They said, “It is well; and **see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!**”

Genesis 29:7 He said, “Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered together. Water the sheep and go, pasture them.”

Genesis 29:8 But they said, “We cannot until **all the flocks are gathered together** and the **stone is rolled from the mouth of the well**; then we water the sheep.”

Genesis 29:9 While he was still speaking with them, **Rachel** came with her father’s sheep, for she was a **shepherdess**.

Genesis 29:10 Now as soon as **Jacob saw Rachel** the daughter of Laban his mother’s brother, and **the sheep** of Laban his mother’s brother, **Jacob** came near and **rolled the stone from the well’s mouth** and **watered the flock of Laban** his mother’s brother.

Genesis 29:11 Then **Jacob kissed Rachel** and **wept aloud**.

Genesis 29:12 And Jacob told Rachel that **he was her father’s kinsman**, and that **he was Rebekah’s son**, and **she ran and told her father**.

Genesis 29:13 As soon as **Laban heard the news** about Jacob, his sister’s son, **he ran** to meet him and **embraced him** and **kissed him** and brought him to his house. **Jacob told Laban all these things**,

Genesis 29:14 and Laban said to him, “**Surely you are my bone and my flesh!**” And he stayed with him a **month**.

Genesis 1:4 And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to **separate the day from the night**. And let them be for signs and **for seasons**, and **for days** and **years...** (*Moon / 29.53 days*)

Genesis 29:15 Then **Laban** said to **Jacob**, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, **what shall your wages be?**”

Genesis 29:16 Now **Laban had two daughters**. The name of the **older was Leah**, and the name of the **younger was Rachel**.

Genesis 29:17 **Leah’s eyes were weak**, but **Rachel** was **beautiful in form and appearance**.

Genesis 29:18 **Jacob loved Rachel.** And he said, “**I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.**”

Genesis 29:19 **Laban** said, “**It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.**”

Genesis 29:20 So Jacob **served seven years** for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days **because of the love he had for her.**

Genesis 29:21 Then **Jacob** said to **Laban**, “**Give me my wife** that I may go in to her, for **my time is completed.**”

Genesis 29:22 So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and **made a feast.**

Genesis 29:23 **But** in the **evening he took his daughter Leah** and **brought her to Jacob**, and he went in to her.

Genesis 29:24 (Laban gave his female servant **Zilpah** to his daughter Leah to be **her servant.**)

Genesis 29:25 And **in the morning, behold, it was Leah!** And Jacob said to Laban, “**What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?**”

Matthew 7:12 “So whatever you wish that **others would do to you, do also to them,** for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Genesis 29:26 Laban said, “It is not so done in our country, **to give the younger before the firstborn.**

Genesis 29:27 **Complete the week (7 days) of this one (Leah),** and we will give you the other (*Rachel*) also in return for serving me another **seven years.**”

Genesis 29:28 **Jacob did so, and completed her (Leah) week.** Then Laban gave him his daughter **Rachel to be his wife.**

Genesis 29:29 (Laban gave his female servant **Bilhah** to his daughter Rachel to be **her servant.**)

Genesis 29:30 So **Jacob went in to Rachel also**, and **he loved Rachel more than Leah**, and **served Laban for another seven years**.

Genesis 29:31 When the **LORD** saw that Leah was hated, **he opened her womb**, but **Rachel was barren**.

Genesis 29:32 And **Leah conceived and bore a son**, and she called his name **Reuben** (*son*), for she said, “Because the LORD has **looked upon my affliction**; for **now my husband will love me**.”

Genesis 29:33 **She conceived again and bore a son**, and said, “**Because the LORD has heard that I am hated**, he has **given me this son also**.” And she called his name **Simeon** (*heard*).

Genesis 29:34 **Again she conceived and bore a son**, and said, “**Now this time my husband will be attached to me**, because I have borne him three sons.” Therefore his name was called **Levi** (*attached*).

*“I had a dream my life would be  
So different from this hell I'm living  
So different now from what it seemed  
Now life has killed the dream I dreamed”  
Fantine, Les Miserables*

*“What does not satisfy when we find it, was not the thing we were desiring.”*  
**C.S. Lewis**

Genesis 29:35 And **she conceived again and bore a son**, and said, “**This time I will praise the LORD**.” Therefore she called his name **Judah** (*praise*). **Then she ceased bearing** (for now).

*Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun and Dinah*

Genesis 49:10 The **scepter shall not depart from Judah**, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

Isaiah 53:3 He was **despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;** and as one from whom men **hide their faces** he was **despised, and we esteemed him not.**

Isaiah 55:1 **“Come, everyone who thirsts,** come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Isaiah 55:2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which **does not satisfy?** Listen diligently to me, and **eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.**

Psalms 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; **in your presence there is fullness of joy;** at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Psalms 63:1 O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; **my soul thirsts for you;** my flesh faints for you, as in a **dry and weary land where there is no water.**

Jeremiah 2:13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, **broken cisterns** that can hold no water.

Psalms 37:4 **Delight yourself in the LORD,** and he will **give you the desires of your heart.**

*“You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless, until they find their rest in Thee”. Augustine*

**“This time I will praise the LORD.”**