

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ

Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz

...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free. Jn.8:32

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

27:09:15

Theme: UNEXPECTED REVELATION OF GOD'S GRACE

Memory Verse: *James 4:13-14 "Go to now, ye that say, to day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: [14] whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour that appeared for a little time, and then vanished away."*

Texts: Genesis 27:43-45; Galatians 1:13-24

As Jacob journeyed to Haran where he was expecting to get a wife, God graciously revealed Himself to him in a night dream. The present condition of Jacob was so austere. He had a hard ground for a bed and a stone for a pillow. He was lonely, insecure and destitute of God. His previous life was characterized by dependence on carnal wisdom for survival. He had his future planned with the counsel of his mother, without any input from the Spirit of God.

Rebecca had said to him: "Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran; And tarry with him a few days, until thy brother's fury turn away; Until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him: then I will send, and fetch thee from thence: why should I be deprived also of you both in one day?" As it turned out, Jacob did not tarry a few days in Haran, neither did his brother's anger turn away. He spent twenty years away from home.

To those who boast themselves of tomorrow and speak of the future as though they knew what each day would bring, James was inspired to warn us in our memory verse. Even though Jacob had his life planned for him by his mother without her making enquiry from God as she did before Jacob's birth, the Lord chose, all the same, to reveal Himself to Jacob. What an unmerited favour! Jacob before this time had no personal encounter with God. However, in a difficult situation, when he was removed from familiar grounds, God revealed Himself to Jacob in a dream.