

LESSON 15

15.04.18

Theme: JACOB RECONCILES WITH ESAU

Memory Verse: *Proverbs 16:7 “When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.”*

Texts: Genesis 32:24-32; Hosea 12:3:5

The moment of reconciliation between Jacob and Esau had come, a day Jacob had dreaded for more than twenty years. After Jacob wrestled with the angel of the covenant, we see in him a changed heart and much dependence upon God, accompanied by a spirit of deep humility and gratitude. The previous chapter showed how Jacob had power with God and prevailed. Here we find him having power with men too. When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him (Proverbs 16:7). The lesson is: when we prevail with God, it becomes easy to prevail with man.

When Jacob got reconciled to God, God reconciled his brother to him. The hearts of all men are in the hands of God. The lesson brings into focus the first recorded instance of reconciliation between brothers who had been separated by strife. The two prayers of Jacob are recorded in the scriptures for our learning. The first was renowned for its simplicity, the second for its intensity.

The first prayer was characterised by talking, the second by wrestling. Jacob's first prayer was done in public, in the full glare of his wives, children and servants; his second prayer, for its import and solemnity, was offered when Jacob was left alone. In the first prayer, God was to work on Esau for Jacob's sake but in the second prayer God had to work on Jacob for his own sake. Jacob's first prayer sounded something like, O God, save me! But his second prayer would sound something like, O God, break me! Many pastors and church leaders today concentrate the attention of their followers on conquering Satan, demons, witches and wizards. Meanwhile, these members know nothing of allowing God to conquer their will, passion, self and pride. Lord, teach us how to pray.

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Proverbs 30	Proverbs 31
MONDAY	Ecclesiastes 1	Ecclesiastes 2
TUESDAY	Ecclesiastes 3	Ecclesiastes 4
WEDNESDAY	Ecclesiastes 5	Ecclesiastes 6
THURSDAY	Ecclesiastes 7	Ecclesiastes 8
FRIDAY	Ecclesiastes 9	Ecclesiastes 10
SATURDAY	Ecclesiastes 11	Ecclesiastes 12