

Theme: JACOB’S MEETING WITH ESAU

Memory Verse: *Genesis 33:1 “And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.”*

Texts: Genesis 33:1-11; Genesis 45:1-15; Luke 15:12-20

Jacob passed over Penuel with the sun rising upon him signifying the dawn of a new chapter in his life. Now he can go on to face Esau. Behold, Esau was coming to him with 400 men. Momentarily, fear returned to Jacob’s mind, and he thought of a move for quick survival. The old nature and the self-preservation instincts quickly took over. He divided the family into groups with maids and their children in front, followed by Leah and her seven children.

Then Rachael, his beloved wife, and her son Joseph which were dearest to Jacob’s heart were to be at the rear. His feeling probably was that if Esau was coming to kill, at least, Rachel and Joseph would have escaped before Esau finished with the other groups ahead of them. However, Jacob prevailed over fear of death and men. So, he passed over his Family and went ahead to meet Esau. Jacob has had an encounter with God and God has given him authority and power. “... for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed” (Genesis 32:28).

With this authority came courage. The righteous shall be as bold as a lion. Jacob has settled with God and so can face whatever challenges lie ahead. It is instructive for believers to settle with God before going to confront those with whom they have any misunderstanding. The man who tries to do restitution without first settling with God is only being moralistic. He is not doing it to honour God. You might sometimes have had a wonderful time with God in prayer, and maybe with fasting. While trying to relish the joy of the encounter, there might have appeared a negative development that could frighten you to think that God has not answered your prayer. It is the trick of the devil to steal your blessing. Remember, at that time, the thief, the enemy, the devil, “cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy” (John 10:10).

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Songs of Solomon 1	Songs of Solomon 2
MONDAY	Songs of Solomon 3	Songs of Solomon 4
TUESDAY	Songs of Solomon 5	Songs of Solomon 6
WEDNESDAY	Songs of Solomon 7	Songs of Solomon 8
THURSDAY	Isaiah 1	Isaiah 2
FRIDAY	Isaiah 3	Isaiah 4
SATURDAY	Isaiah 4	Isaiah 5