

Theme: JACOB’S DESIRE FOR PEACE

Memory Verse: *Genesis 32:3-5 “And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom. And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now: And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and women servants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.”*

Texts: Genesis 32:1-5; Mathew 5:23-24; Psalms 34:12-14

Jacob fled from home, an attempt to escape the wrath of his offended brother, Esau who had vowed to kill Jacob for cheating him (Genesis 27:36, 41). Jacob and his mother, Rebecca, had hoped that out of sight will be out of mind for Esau and that after a few days, Jacob would be free to return home to enjoy his blessings. It was not so to be. Jacob stayed away for twenty years and would probably not have thought of returning home but for a series of developments in Laban’s house.

Jacob was oblivious of the situation at home which he left twenty years ago. There is no record of any contact between Jacob in Padanaram and his people in Canaan during this period. Jacob knew, however, that he had treated his elder brother badly. He wanted to make peace. He was neither going to take the promised blessings of God for granted, nor just walk into the presence of Esau, assuming that time has healed the wounds in the heart of Esau. He was cautious.

After more than twenty years, Jacob proceeded to make his restitution to Esau. The message he sent ahead of his arrival was humble, conciliatory and peaceable (Genesis 32:3-5). He referred to himself as Esau’s servant and he called Esau his brother. He really wanted to make peace with his brother. There was no pride or self-justification. What a challenge to the believer in the dispensation of grace! Christian wives, husbands, children, church workers and members need to constantly remember that making restitution and offering apologies is a necessary sweetener of human relationships.

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Psalms 116	Psalms 117 & 118
MONDAY	Psalms 119 : 1-24	Psalms 119 : 25-48
TUESDAY	Psalms 119 : 49-64	Psalms 119 : 65-88
WEDNESDAY	Psalms 119 : 89-112	Psalms 119 : 113-136
THURSDAY	Psalms 119 : 137-160	Psalms 119 : 161-176
FRIDAY	Psalms 120	Psalms 121
SATURDAY	Psalms 122	Psalms 123