

Theme: JACOB’S FEAR WAS REAL

Memory Verse: *Genesis 27:41 “And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, the days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.”*

Text: 2 Chronicles 28:19-25

Jacob’s fear was real. The last time both were together, Esau had vowed to kill him (Genesis 27:41). Jacob had fled on account of that threat and now returns home to face a four hundred-man team raised by his angry brother. A flurry of activities thrown up by Jacob’s protective instincts followed. First, he schemed, then he supplicated; first he planned, next he prayed. That was Jacob in his true nature; he should have reversed the order — first pray and then plan.

In the same way, most people would react to distress, not even remembering to pray. The distresses God allows to come our way are often designed to show what we truly are. While Jacob’s distress led him into prayer, King Ahaz’s led him yet more into sinning against the Lord (2 Chronicle 28:19-25), King Saul’s distress drove him to a witch while king Ahiaziah’s drove him to Baal-zebub the god of Ekron (2 Kings 1:2).

On the other hand Job, though vexed with sore distresses, refused to sin against God or charge His Creator foolishly. Only eternity would tell which the greater tragedy is: lack of children in some “Christian” families or their response of going to herbalists and false prophets for help. If only we would learn the veracity of God’s word that says: “Truly In vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, and from the multitude of mountains: truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel” (Jeremiah 3:23).

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Psalms 138	Psalms 139
MONDAY	Psalms 140	Psalms 141
TUESDAY	Psalms 142	Psalms 143
WEDNESDAY	Psalms 144	Psalms 145
THURSDAY	Psalms 146	Psalms 147
FRIDAY	Psalms 148	Psalms 149
SATURDAY	Psalms 150	Proverbs 1