### Genesis

## Chapter 33

1Well, when Jacob looked up, {Look!} he saw his brother Esau coming with 400 men! So Jacob divided the children between LeAh, RachEl, and the two female servants.  
  
2Then he put the two female servants and their children out in front, followed by LeAh and her children, then RachEl, and [finally, himself] at the rear… 3But then Jacob stepped out ahead of them all and bowed to the ground 7 times, as he approached his brother...  
  
4Well at that, Esau ran up to meet him! He hugged him, fell around his neck and kissed him… And they both started crying.  
  
5Then when Esau noticed the women and children, he asked:  
  
 ‘What are they to you?’  
  
And Jacob replied:  
  
 ‘They’re the children with which God has so mercifully blest your servant.’  
  
6Then the female servants and their children came up and bowed low, 7followed by LeAh and her children who also came up and bowed low.  
  
And finally, RachEl [arrived] and bowed down next to JoSeph.  
  
8So [Esau] asked:  
  
 ‘Then, what did all those groups that I met along the way have to do with you?’  
  
And [Jacob] replied:  
  
 ‘This was done so that your servant might find favor in your eyes, my lord.’  
  
9Then Esau said:  
  
 ‘But I [already own] much, my brother. Keep what’s yours!’  
  
10And Jacob said:  
  
 ‘If I’ve found favor in your eyes, take the gifts from my hands. For, seeing your face is like seeing the face of God! If you’re happy with me, 11take the blessings that I’ve brought to you, because God has been merciful to me, and I have everything.’  
  
And he kept insisting, so [Esau] took them. 12Then he said:  
  
 ‘Now, let’s head back.’  
  
13But [Jacob] said:  
  
 ‘My lord,  
  
 ‘You know that the children are frail, and the flocks and herds that I’ve brought also have [many] young ones. So if I drive them hard today, these cattle will die.  
  
 14‘Therefore, my lord, go on ahead of your servant… I’ll take it easy along the way, so [I’ll have] enough strength [to make the long journey] that’s still ahead of me, and so that the children will have enough strength.  
  
 ‘Then I’ll [meet up with] my lord at SeIr.’  
  
15And Esau said:  
  
 ‘Then, let me leave some of my men with you.’  
  
And [Jacob] asked:  
  
 ‘Why? It’s enough that I’ve found your favor, my lord!’  
  
16So Esau returned to SeIr that day, 17and Jacob returned to the tents that he had set up to live in… And he also built pens for his cattle. Then he named that place, SucCoth [meaning, The Pens].  
  
18Finally, Jacob arrived at Salem (SheChem’s city) in the land of CanaAn, after traveling all the way from MesoPotamia of Syria. So he went to [the city gate] 19and bought the field where he’d camped from Hamor (the father of SheChem) for 100 lambs... 20And there he erected an altar, where he called upon his (IsraEl’s) God.