**CHAPTER** **33**

*Jacob and Esau meet: Jacob goeth to Salem, where he raiseth an altar.*

**1** And Jacob lifting up his eyes, saw Esau coming, and with him four hundred men; and he divided the children of Lia, and of Rachel, and of the two handmaids:

**2** And he put both the handmaids and their children foremost: and Lia and her children in the second place: and Rachel and Joseph last.

**3** And he went forward and bowed down with his face to the ground seven times until his brother came near.

**4** Then Esau ran to meet his brother, and embraced him: and clasping him fast about the neck, and kissing him, wept.

**5** And lifting up his eyes, he saw the women and their children, and said: What mean these? And do they belong to thee? He answered: They are the children which God hath given to me thy servant.

**6** Then the handmaids and their children came near, and bowed themselves.

**7** Lia also with her children came near, and bowed down in like manner, and last of all Joseph and Rachel bowed down.

**8** And Esau said: What are the droves that I met? He answered: That I might find favour before my lord.

**9** But he said: I have plenty, my brother, keep what is thine for thyself.

**10** And Jacob said: Do not so I beseech thee, but if I have found favour in thy eyes, receive a little present at my hands: for I have seen thy face, as if I should have seen the countenance of God: be gracious to me,

**11** And take the blessing, which I have brought thee, and which God hath given me, who giveth all things. He took it with much ado at his brother’s earnest pressing him,

**12** And said: Let us go on together, and I will accompany thee in thy journey.

**13** And Jacob said: My lord, thou knowest that I have with me tender children, and sheep, and kine with young: which if I should cause to be overdriven, in one day all the flocks will die.

**14** May it please my lord to go before his servant: and I will follow softly after him, as I shall see my children to be able, until I come to my lord in Seir.

**15** Esau answered: I beseech thee, that some of the people at least, who are with me, may stay to accompany thee in the way. And he said: There is no necessity: I want nothing else but only to find favour, my lord, in thy sight.

**16** So Esau returned, that day, the way that he came, to Seir.

**17** And Jacob came to Socoth: where having built a house, and pitched tents, he called the name of the place Socoth, that is, Tents.

**18** And he passed over to Salem, a city of the Sichemites, which is in the land of Chanaan, after he returned from Mesopotamia of Syria: and he dwelt by the town:

**19** And he bought that part of the field, in which he pitched his tents, of the children of Hemor, the father of Sichem for a hundred lambs.

**20** And raising an altar there, he invoked upon it the most mighty God of Israel.