

**Jacob Prospers Despite Laban & Decides to Return to Israel (Gen 30:25–31:16)**

Grace Chapel January 27, 2010 Dr. John Niemelä

**INTRODUCTION**

**JACOB PROSPERS AT THE EXPENSE OF DECEITFUL LABAN (30:25–43)**

**(30:25–26) After 14 years Jacob told Laban that he wanted to return to Israel**

**(30:27–28) Laban offered for Jacob to stay & name his wages, because he knew that the LORD had prospered him because of Jacob**

**(30:29–30) Jacob said that the LORD had prospered Laban during Jacob's years of serving Laban, but he himself did not share in Laban's prosperity**

**(30:31–33) Jacob told Laban that (rather than receiving wages) the oddly colored sheep would become his property**

**(30:34) Laban agreed to Jacob's proposal**

**(30:35–36) Laban immediately took the oddly colored sheep and sent them with family members to distant places**

**(30:37–39) Jacob placed striped rods before Laban’s breeding stock & the offspring were oddly colored**

Did the rods have anything to with the results?

**(30:40) Jacob separated his flocks from Laban’s**

**(30:41–42) Jacob used the striped rods with Laban’s better breeding stock, but did not use them with the weaker breeding stock**

**(30:43) Jacob’s wealth multiplied**

**JACOB DECIDES TO RETURN TO ISRAEL (31:1–16)**

**(31:1–2) Laban's sons resented Jacob's enrichment at Laban's expense**

**(31:3) The LORD told Jacob to return to his family in Israel**

**(31:4–9) Jacob called Rachael & Leah, telling them how God had prospered him at Laban's expense, despite Laban changing his wages ten times**

**(31:10-12) Jacob told Rachael & Leah that God gave him a dream about using add Colored breeding rams to thwart Laban's efforts to cheat Jacob**

**(31:13) God (who met Jacob at Bethel) commanded him to return to his family in Israel**

**(31:14-16) Rachael & Leah urged Jacob to obey God, noting that Laban had not only Stolen from Jacob, but had stolen from them also by confiscating their dowry**

**SUMMARY**