

# God Remembers

**30** And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.

- When earthly expectations are not met without the Holy Spirit we will blame others.
- Envy keeps the focus off the source and on want.
- Its absence does not necessarily mean denial but divine delay
- Drama has complete access to our emotions and rational.

<sup>2</sup> And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

- Unrealistic expectations invokes the feeling of helplessness in the individual it is directed and eventually invoke anger.

<sup>3</sup> And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in unto her; and she shall bear upon my knees, that I may also have children by her.

- Now (though God anticipated) irrational solutions are implemented which will not be sufficient nor God's remedy.

<sup>4</sup> And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife: and Jacob went in unto her.

<sup>5</sup> And Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son.

<sup>6</sup> And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan.

- God had not judged her
- He had not answered her prayer:
- He gives her a son that will be far more for his plan than hers, He is in the plan but not the purpose of Rachel.

<sup>7</sup> And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son.

<sup>8</sup> And Rachel said, With great wrestling's have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.

- All of these sons are named out of the turmoil of sisters who have the same husband.
- Dan "God Has Judged" Naphtali "my struggle or wrestling"
- Jacob had wrestled with Esau now Jacobs's wives wrestle with one another. Soon Jacob will exceed past his earthly contentions and truly deal with the root of the problem his wrestling with God. Rachel or Leah never get past relational issues on earth to focus on the true deliver God.

<sup>9</sup> When Leah saw that she had left bearing, she took Zilpah her maid, and gave her Jacob to wife.

- Leah season of praise is obviously short lived (too often like us) She attempt to win the battle by attrition

<sup>10</sup> And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a son. <sup>11</sup> And Leah said, A troop cometh: and she called his name Gad.

- Name meaning "fortune' luckily I have this one to keep my lead.

<sup>12</sup> And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son.<sup>13</sup> And Leah said, Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed: and she called his name Asher.

- I am blessed, though due to her narrow focus and still selfish motives she is claiming blessing for the wrong reasons.

<sup>14</sup> And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them unto his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray thee, of thy son's mandrakes. <sup>15</sup> And she said unto her, Is it a small matter that thou hast taken my husband? and wouldest thou take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he shall lie with thee to night for thy son's mandrakes.

- This is an aphrodisiacs for the reasons of fertility
- Rachel for a season though obviously had told Jacob. He could visit the kids but anything else better not be going on. Perhaps she allows because she like Leah had felt Leah had left off bearing.
- Leah makes a startling and gut felt comment how she truly feels- you stole my husband. Notice what she had conspired to do she now blames her sister of.

<sup>16</sup> And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, Thou must come in unto me; for surely I have hired thee with my son's mandrakes. And he lay with her that night.<sup>17</sup> And God hearkened unto Leah, and she conceived, and bare Jacob the fifth son.

- Please don't miss this - this is not her errant statement it is the evaluation of the writer through inspiration that she was adhered by God: Why: She gave her sister something that would help her in the very competitive reason they were struggling.
- Example: two cooks competing and one shares his award winning recipe with the other.

<sup>18</sup> And Leah said, God hath given me my hire, because I have given my maiden to my husband: and she called his name Issachar.

- Name meaning "God has rewarded me"  
The reason she was rewarded still escapes her.

<sup>19</sup> And Leah conceived again, and bare Jacob the sixth son.<sup>20</sup> And Leah said, God hath endued me with a good dowry; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have born him six sons: and she called his name Zebulun.

- "Now he will stay with me? After 6 sons and 2 by handmaidens Jacob dwells with Rachel- Jacob loves Rachel

<sup>21</sup> And afterwards she bare a daughter, and called her name Dinah. (another sermon)

<sup>22</sup> And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb. All the haggling and jockeying and sleeping around was more for the fact that these sons will become the tribes of Israel than solidify a relationship. God Remembered Rachel because that was his plan and nobody really asked him!