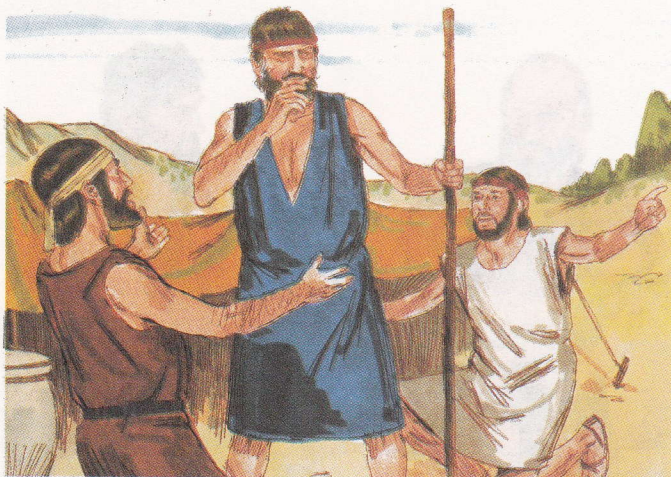


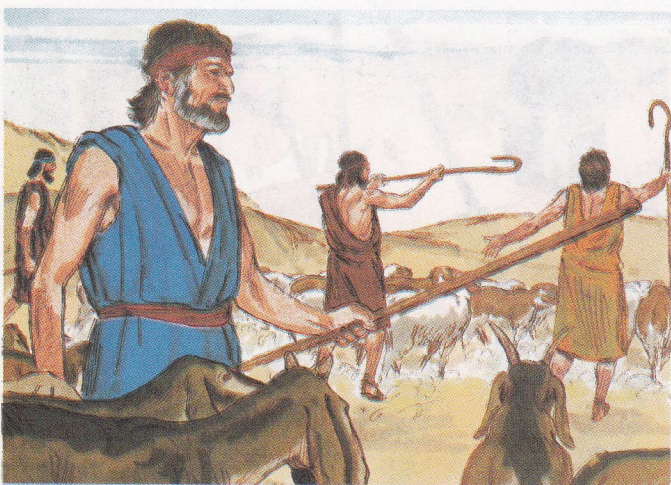
# Jacob Meets Esau Again



**1** Jacob learned that Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men. Fearing that Esau might be planning to attack him, Jacob prepared for the worst.



**2** Jacob prayed, reminding God of his promise to give him more descendants than anyone could count. "Save me from my brother Esau. I'm afraid he is coming to destroy us all—even the women and children."



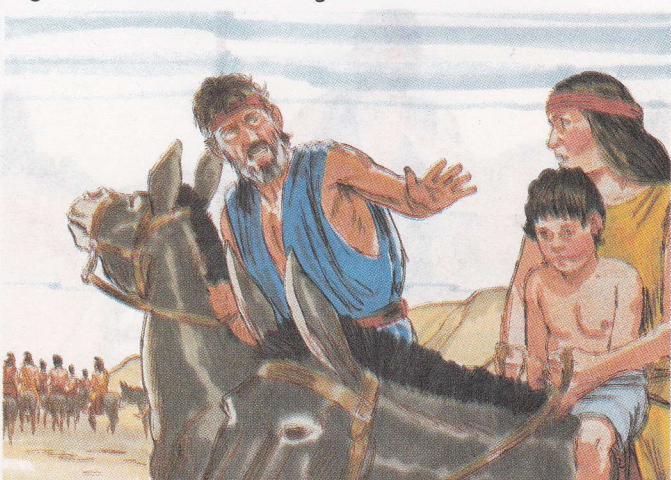
**3** The next day Jacob got together a big present for Esau: 220 goats, 220 sheep, thirty camels, fifty cattle, and thirty donkeys. He grouped them in herds and sent them ahead, one group at a time.



**4** He instructed his servants to say, "Jacob sends these animals as a gift to his master Esau. Jacob himself is right behind us." Jacob thought these gifts might make his brother forgive him.



**5** That night Jacob sent his herds and his family ahead. Alone, Jacob had a strange experience—someone came and wrestled with him all night. The stranger blessed Jacob and gave him the name "Israel."



**6** The next day Jacob caught up with his family. When he could see Esau coming with 400 men, he divided his family and put Rachel and Joseph in the back where they would be safest.

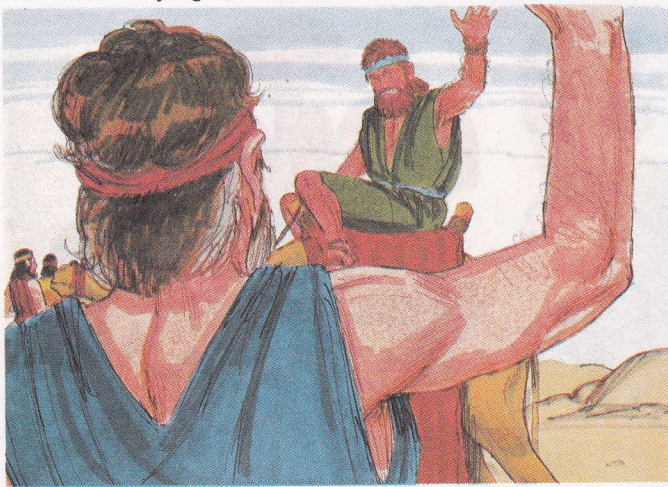




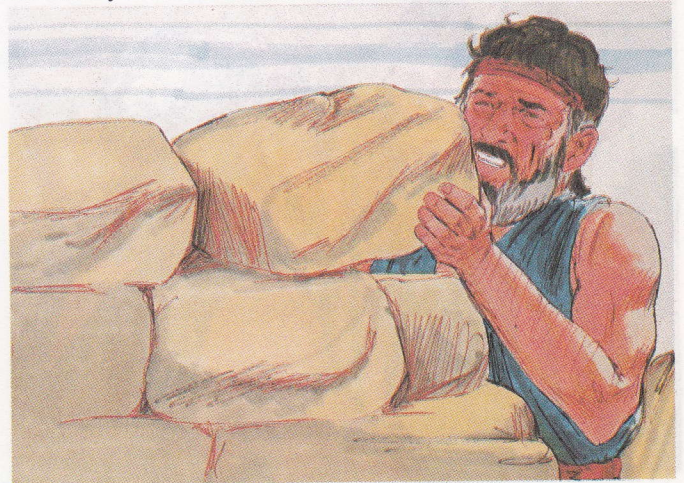
**7** Then Jacob went ahead of them and bowed seven times before Esau. But Esau ran up to Jacob and threw his arms around Jacob and kissed him. Both of them were crying.



**8** Esau tried to refuse the gifts of animals Jacob had given him. But Jacob said, "Please accept my gift. To see your face is for me like seeing the face of God, now that you have been so friendly to me."



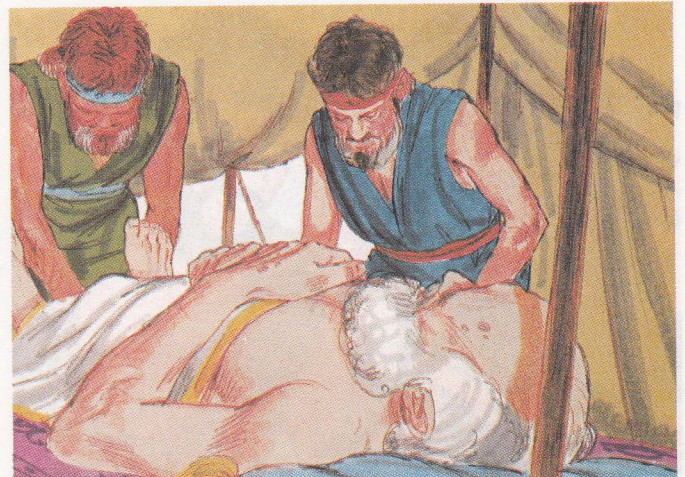
**9** Jacob told Esau to go on home and that he would come along later. His herds and his children were weak and tired from the long journey, so he wanted time for them to rest.



**10** According to instructions of the Lord, Jacob stopped at Bethel, where he had once seen the stairway to heaven in a dream. There he built an altar to the Lord.



**11** As Jacob and his family traveled, Rachel gave birth to a second son, Benjamin. But Rachel died when the baby was born. Jacob buried her there, near the road going to Bethlehem.



**12** Finally Jacob reached Hebron, where his father Isaac was living. Isaac died later when he was 180 years old. He was buried by his sons, Esau and Jacob. Now the story of Jacob's son Joseph begins.