

Pastor Ron Case
6/16/13

“The Fear of Isaac”

“If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not been on my side ...” (Genesis 31:42)

Godly Fear Helped Jacob to:

(1) Endure a Hostile World

Genesis 31:25-29, 36, 41-42 – (25) “And Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill country, and Laban with his kinsmen pitched tents in the hill country of Gilead. (26) And Laban said to Jacob, ‘What have you done, that you have tricked me and driven away my daughters like captives of the sword?

(27) Why did you flee secretly and trick me, and did not tell me, so that I might have sent you away with mirth and songs, with tambourine and lyre? (28) And why did you not permit me to kiss my sons and my daughters farewell? Now you have done foolishly. (29) It is in my power to do you harm. But the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, Be careful not to say anything to Jacob, either good or bad.”

(36) “Then Jacob became angry and berated Laban. Jacob said to Laban, ‘What is my offense? What is my sin, that you have hotly pursued me? (41) These twenty years I have been in your house. I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times. (42) If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not been on my side, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God saw my affliction and the labor of my hands and rebuked you last night.”

(2) Examine His Hostile Heart

Genesis 31:48-53 – (48) “Laban said, ‘This heap is a witness between you and me today.’ Therefore he named it Galeed, (49) and Mizpah, for he said, ‘The LORD watch between you and me, when we are out of one another’s sight. (50) If you oppress my daughters, or if you take wives besides my daughters, although no one is with us, see, God is witness between you and me.’ (51) Then Laban said to Jacob, ‘See this heap and the pillar, which I have set between you and me. (52) This heap is a witness, and the pillar is a witness, that I will not pass over this heap to you, and you will not pass over this heap and this pillar to me, to do harm. (53) The God of Abraham and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us.’ So Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac,”

Key Point: Godly Fear Influences Others
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Response:

Be a Role Model

“Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God, and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.” (2 Chronicles 26:3-5)

Remember the Requirement

“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,” (Deuteronomy 10:12)

Receive the Resource

“I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them.” (Jeremiah 32:39)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

As a Father, am I doing my best to make evident Godly fear by words and actions?

Even if I'm not a Father, am I aware that true Godly fear influences others?

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)