**Forgotten Vow Of Jacob**

**Reading - Genesis 35:1-7**

**A HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

THIRTY YEARS earlier, Jacob had made a vow. ***[Genesis 28:10-22]***

**LESSONS TO LEARN FROM THIS**

God expects us to keep the vows we make. ***[Ecclesiastes 5:2-5] Do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be few.  3For the dream comes through much effort and the voice of a fool through many words. 4When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it; for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow!  5It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.***

Consider God's warning to Israel against forgetfulness after they entered the "promised land" - ***[Deuteronomy 8:11-20] 11“Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today;  12otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them,  13and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies,  14then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.  15“He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint.  16“In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end.  17“Otherwise, you may say in your heart, ‘My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.’  18“But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.  19“It shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish.  20“Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish; because you would not listen to the voice of the LORD your God.***

Influenced by the world. ***[Genesis 35:2] So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods which are among you, and purify yourselves and change your garments;***

***[2 Timothy 4:10] for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia***.

***[Revelation 2:4-5] ‘But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.  5‘Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.***

**RENEWED BLESSINGS! *[Genesis 35:9-15] Then God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-aram, and He blessed him.  10God said to him, “Your name is Jacob;  You shall no longer be called Jacob, But Israel shall be your name.” Thus He called him Israel.  11God also said to him, “I am God Almighty; Be fruitful and multiply; A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, And kings shall come forth from you. 12 “The land which I gave to Abraham and Isaac, I will give it to you, And I will give the land to your descendants after you.” 13Then God went up from him in the place where He had spoken with him.  14Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He had spoken with him, a pillar of stone, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it.  15So Jacob named the place where God had spoken with him, £Bethel.***

***[Acts 2:36-40] “Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” 37Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?”  38Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.  39“For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”  40And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!”***

***[1 John 1:9] If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness***.