

Parasha 8: Vayishlach (He Sent)

B'resheet/Genesis 32:4 – 36:43

*All Scripture References from The Orthodox Jewish Bible- Referred to as OJB- unless otherwise noted

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Ya'akov/Jacob has come to the end of his exile. So many things have happened to him. Yet, the most serious test he has ever faced is about to come his way. YHWH has told him to return to The Land of his avot/fathers. However, to do so means that he must face his estranged brother Esav/Esau. This journey is no small trek. It will take Ya'akov/Jacob two years to return!

In the dealings of YHWH in our life, there is one constant principle: **WE CANNOT REACH THE NEXT LEVEL IN OUR DESTINY UNTIL WE HAVE PASSED EACH TEST THAT PRECEDES IT.** Ya'akov/Jacob left behind his brother over twenty years ago. The closer he comes to returning to The Land of his fathers the thing he fears the most will soon be directly before him. Now, he has no choice but to *'face his brother'*. Esav/Esau will have had twenty two years to let his hatred for Ya'akov/Jacob smolder. In Ya'akov's/Jacob's mind, there is seemingly no good end to their meeting.

What we find here in Ya'akov/Jacob is, there is still a *'troubling spiritual root'* within his heart. There still lurks a *'spirit of fear'*. He has *'heard'* YHWH's promises. He has *'seen'* His faithfulness over these twenty years but notice that Ya'akov/Jacob still has not *'entered into'* a real relationship with YHWH. In fact, he calls YHWH,

"...O Elohei Avi Avraham [The Mighty One of my father Abraham], and Elohei Avi Yitzhak [The Mighty One of my father Isaac] ..." (B'resheet/Genesis 32:9a OJB-
definitions mine)

Notice, he still does not say... YHWH is *'my Mighty One'*! This whole encounter with Esav/Esau is designed to bring Ya'akov/Jacob to the *'final end of himself'*. For all of the ingenuity he has used in the past which had served him well, the thought of facing Esav/Esau negates it all. The Torah gives us this assessment,

"Then Ya'akov [Jacob] was GREATLY AFRAID AND DISTRESSED..."
(B'resheet/Genesis 32:7a OJB- *emphasis/definitions mine*)

Then, in his prayer to YHWH he says of Esav/Esau,

"Save me, now, from the yad achi [my brother's hand], from the yad [hand of] Esav [Esau]; FOR I FEAR HIM, lest he will come and attack me, em with banim [mother with children]."
(B'resheet/Genesis 32:11 OJB- *emphasis/definitions mine*)

Fear still drives Ya'akov/Jacob. Why? Because all he has to depend on is his own ingenuity. He senses that the threat which Esav/Esau brings is too great. In desperation, he cries out to YHWH, pleading for His intervention. He reminds YHWH of His promises to deliver him and bring him

back to Cana'an safely. It is a good beginning, but something must happen deep within Ya'akob/Jacob if he is to pass this test.

The Mashiach: YHWH's Only Provision

We did not spend much time in our last parasha looking at the dream which Ya'akob/Jacob had while he *'slept on the rock'*. However, that experience, along with the one which Ya'akob/Jacob is about to have *'all speak of the same thing'*. **THE ONLY ANSWER YHWH HAS FOR ANY NEED IN OUR LIFE IS... MORE OF HIS SON!** Our need may find itself in many different expressions (**eg. salvation, finances, healing... etc.**), but they may all be summed up in our need of a Redeemer. **HE ALONE IS THE ONE WHO CAN MEET THOSE NEEDS.** Remember, the words which Rav Sha'ul spoke to the Galatians who found themselves in such a great crisis of faith...

*“My yeladim [**children**], for whom again I suffer chevlei leydah (birth pains) until Moshiach is FORMED IN YOU,” (Galatians 4:19 OJB- **emphasis/definitions mine**)*

We always think so many times, that the answer is a *'thing'*. The answer is in fact a **SOMEONE!** It is **MASHIACH YESHUA HIMSELF!** It is the formation of His *'character'*, which is the *'fruit of the spirit'*. (**Gal. 5:22-23**) None of us can live the life we are called to as YHWH's children in our own strength. This is why YHWH gives us His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness. It's not just about our being *'filled with His Ruach/Spirit'*. It is about our blessed Mashiach Yeshua being able to express Himself **IN US** and **THROUGH US** by the indwelling of YHWH's HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness.

Who was the *'ladder'* in Ya'akob's/Jacob's dream that night? Upon Whom were the angels *'ascending and descending'*? Our blessed Adon/Lord Yeshua tells us in the Besorah/Gospel of Yochanon/John. After His discussion with Natan'el/Nathaniel He relates these words,

*“In reply, Yehoshua [**Yeshua**] said to Natan'el [**Nathaniel**], Because I told you that I watched you beneath the etz hate'edah [**fig tree**], do you have emunah (faith)? Greater than these things you will see.*

*And he says to Natan'el [**Nathaniel**], Omein, omein [**Truly, truly**] I say to you, you will see Shomayim [**The Heavens**] having been opened and malachim (angels) of Hashem [**YHWH**] ascending and descending on the Ben HaAdam (Son of Man... i.e., Moshiach).”*
(Yochanon/John 1:50-51 OJB- **definitions mine**)

The imagery was inescapable. Those who heard these words **KNEW EXACTLY** to what they referred. Our Adon/Lord Yeshua **IS THE LADDER** connecting the Shomayim/Heavens. He **IS** the means by which the heavens supply the earth. The angels of The Mighty One **ASCEND AND DESCEND** upon Him! Ya'akob/Jacob met the Mashiach that night at Beit'el in the form of the **LADDER!**

The Rabbis say that *'the ladder'* is the Torah. This is true in the pashat/literal sense. Yet, in the *'sod/secret or hidden/shadow sense'* it points to our blessed Rebbe Yeshua! **HE IS THE LIVING TORAH!** In the Messianic Writings (**Matthew-Revelation**), all that the *'written Torah'* promised is **PERSONIFIED** in our Mashiach Yeshua. **THE TORAH BRINGS HEAVEN AND EARTH**

TOGETHER. The Living Torah/Yeshua HaMashiach/The Messiah brings our heart and heaven **TOGETHER** through the indwelling of YHWH's HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness.

A Close Encounter With The Mashiach

Ya'akov/Jacob had heard of YHWH through his fathers... Abraham and Yitz'chak/Isaac. He had encountered, spiritually, both YHWH as Father and His 'manifestation' as Son in the vision that night in Beit'el. The word for 'stone' in Hebrew is 'eben'. ****[אבן nun-bet-alef- read right to left]** It is a combination of two words; one for 'father' ('ab' from which we get 'abba') and the other for 'son' (which is 'ben'). However, it is not enough to 'hear about' or even to have a 'vision'. **THERE MUST BE AN UP-CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH YHWH'S SON, THE MASHIACH.** It must be one that gets to the heart. This is what is about to happen to Ya'akov/Jacob.

“And Ya'akov [Jacob] was left by himself; and there wrestled an ish [Man] with him until the shachar (dawn, sunup).

And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he struck his hip socket; so Ya'akov's [Jacob's] hip socket dislocated while he wrestled with him.

And he said, Let me go, for shachar [dawn] breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, unless thou make a berakah [blessing] upon me.

And he said unto him, What is shemecha [your name]? And he said, Ya'akov [Jacob].

And he said, Shimcha [your name] shall be called no more Ya'akov [Jacob], but Yisroel

*** (yisrah = to prevail, El = Mighty One = Yisroel): for sarita im Elohim ye have striven with Elohim [The Mighty One] and with anashim [men], and hast overcome.*

And Ya'akov [Jacob] asked him, and said, Tell me, now, shemecha [Your Name]. And he said, Why is it that thou dost ask after shmi [My Name]? And he made a berakhah [blessing] upon him there.

And Ya'akov [Jacob] called the shem [name] of the makom (place) Peniel (Face of G-d/The Mighty One): for I have seen Elohim [The Mighty One] panim el panim [face to face], and my nefesh [soul-life] is saved.

And as he passed over Penuel the shemesh [sun] rose upon him, and he limped upon his hip” (B'reshet/Genesis 32:24-31 OJB- definitions mine)

We are told, that at some point during the night a **MAN** comes to Ya'akov/Jacob and they began to wrestle. In fact, we are told for a period Ya'akov/Jacob even prevailed! Then comes the morning light, and the **MAN** tries to get Ya'akov/Jacob to 'release Him'. However, Ya'akov/Jacob determined as ever, is not willing to do so without a 'blessing'. That 'blessing' would change Ya'akov/Jacob to the very depths of his being.

The **MAN** does bless Ya'akov/Jacob, but first He asks Ya'akov/Jacob what his name is? He tells the **MAN** his name is Ya'akov/Jacob. In turn, the **MAN** gives Ya'akov/Jacob another name... 'Yisrael'. He says, 'for you have striven (**wrestled**) with The Mighty One and with men and have prevailed'. In Torah, a 'change of name' signifies a 'change in nature'. This 'change is outwardly typified by the limp' Ya'akov/Jacob was left with after the **MAN** 'touched his thigh'. The 'thigh signifies strength... human strength'. Ya'akov's/Jacob's source of 'fleshly strength', which he had

learned to depend on in his life had suffered a devastating blow. Now, he is about to find a *'new source of strength'* being made available to him. **THIS STRENGTH WAS IN ANOTHER!**

Who is this MAN? **IT WAS A PRE-INCARNATE MANIFESTATION OF YHWH'S MASHIACH! OUR BLESSED ADON/LORD YESHUA!** This is hinted at when Ya'akob/Jacob asked the MAN what His name was. The MAN deflected the question. It is not time to reveal the *'Name of the Mashiach'*, but He leaves His **MARK... THE FAMILIAR MARK OF THE EXECUTION STAKE** we have been being introduced to. The *'thigh'* upon which Ya'akob/Jacob *'limped'* would forever serve as a reminder of the day of that *'great transference'*. The **POWER OF THE HEAVENLY MAN** became, in measure, the **POWER** of Ya'akob/Jacob. The new name... **YISRAEL** is YHWH's glorious beginning of moving past a **CHOSEN MAN** to a **CHOSEN NATION**. All this has come through the intervention of the Mashiach!

Immediately following this event, we are given further credence that this MAN Ya'akob/Jacob encountered is no *'ordinary man or angel'*. He named the place *'Peni'el'*. Ya'akob/Jacob said, I have **SEEN** Elohim/The Mighty One **FACE TO FACE!** Who is He? This MAN is our blessed **ADON/LORD YESHUA**, who, in the TaNaKh/Hebrew Scriptures, appeared on and off as a *'temporary manifestation'* of YHWH. Now, since His becoming *'flesh'* through Miryam/Mary, His mother, **HE IS THE PERFECT AND ENDURING/CONTINUOUS MANIFESTATION OF YHWH IN HUMAN FORM.** Just as the *'Messianic Scriptures/Kethuvim HaNotzrim/Writings of the Nazarenes'* (**Matthew-Revelation**) proclaim...

"In many and various drakhim (ways) Hashem [YHWH] in amolike times (olden times) He spoke to the Avot [fathers] by the Nevi'im [prophets].

At the Ketz HaYamim [End of Days/Latter Days], Hashem [YHWH] spoke to us by HaBen [The Son], whom He appointed Bechor (heir/firstborn) of the Bechorah [inheritance], Yoresh Kol (Heir of All Things), through whom also Hashem [YHWH] BARAH ES HASHOMAYIM V'ES HA'ARETZ [CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH]; Who being the Shechinah zohar (brilliance) of Hashem [YHWH] and the exact impress and demut [image] of Hashem's [YHWH's] essential nature, being, and reality, and sustaining everything by his Dvar HaKo'ach [Word of The Power], after he made tihur (purification) of chatta'im (sins), sat down at LIMIN ("the right hand") of the Majesty on High"
(Ivrim/Hebrews 1:1-3 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

Ya'akob/Jacob follows this with his exclamation that having seen Elohim/The Mighty One **FACE TO FACE** he did not die! Ya'akob/Jacob did not need a name. He **KNEW** that somehow, he had *'touched'* YHWH in a way he didn't fully understand... **AND HE LIVED!** Now, the Mighty One of his fathers **HAD BECOME HIS MIGHTY ONE TOO!**

Peniel And Penuel?

Before we go further, I would like to make a comment. Ya'akob/Jacob uses a variance in the names concerning the place of his encounter with The Mighty One. In our passage quoted above in **B'resheet/Genesis 32:30-31**, the Hebrew Torah uses two different spellings of Ya'akob's/Jacob's testimony of having seen the *'face of The Mighty One'*. ****[a number of the English translations of the Scriptures record this... some do not]** In verse 30, Ya'akob/Jacob says that he has seen The Mighty One *'face to face'* and he called the place *'Peniel'*. In the very next verse, the Torah

states that when Ya'akob/Jacob got ready to leave that place he calls the name 'Penuel'. Why the difference in spelling?

The difference in the spelling of the two words is an 'i' in English, which is the letter 'yod' in Hebrew for 'Peniel'. The change to 'Penuel' in English comes using the letter 'u' in place of the letter 'i'. In Hebrew, the exchange is with the letters 'yod' י and 'waw/vav' ו, thus making 'Peniel'- פניאל/lamed/alef/yod/nun/peh- read right to left] becomes 'Penuel'- פנואל/ lamed/alef/waw or vav/nun/peh- read right to left] The change between the two does not alter the meaning of the words, only 'how' they are pronounced. However, in the Hebrew, and more importantly in the Torah, **YHWH DOES NOTHING WITHOUT A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IN MIND.**

To understand the reason for the 'change' we must understand what the 'letters in the Hebrew' point toward. The 'yod' י in ancient Paleo Hebrew is a 'picture of a hand' י. It is also the 'first letter' in the spelling of the 'Memorial Name' of The Mighty One... יהוה (read right to left)/YHWH. The letter 'waw/vav' ו in Hebrew is representative of a 'man'. It is the 'sixth letter' of the Hebrew Alef-Bet, because 'man' was created on the 'sixth day'. (B'reshet/Genesis 1:26-31) However, the 'waw/vav' ו in ancient Paleo Hebrew is also pictured as a 'hook'- ך. A 'hook or nail' is used to 'join something together'. Now we are coming 'closer' to what the Torah is 'trying to show us in the change of the name' of the place where Ya'akob/Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Mighty One from 'Peniel to Penuel'.

If you will remember, Ya'akob/Jacob in our parasha does not refer to The Mighty One as 'my', but as 'his fathers' Mighty One. He had not come to a 'personal relationship based on revelation' in his own heart over these past twenty years. That is about to change. Something does indeed happen in the 'wrestling' that takes place between himself and the Angel of The Mighty One. Ya'akob's/Jacob's 'change' in identifying the place of this wrestling and his 'passing' from that place, is testimony to what has happened.

In the wrestling during that night, the yod י in 'Peniel/פניאל' was the place where the 'hand' י of YHWH was brought into Ya'akob's/Jacob's life. In turn, the 'waw/vav' ו the 'hook' ך brought the י 'hand' of YHWH down into Ya'akob's/Jacob's realm, resulting in the 'hand opening' י and giving 'revelation' of Himself to Ya'akob's/Jacob's heart! Now, the 'light of heaven/the sun' **[Son] is risen in Ya'akob's/Jacob's heart. This is signified by the wording of verse 31...

“And as he passed over Penuel the shemesh [sun/Son] rose upon him...”

The 'light' (revelation) of heaven (the sun/Son) rose upon Ya'akob/Jacob. Thus, there is the 'change in the name' of the place from 'Peniel' to 'Penuel'. Ya'akob/Jacob 'transitioned' in his heart from 'one who wrestles with The Mighty One and men'; to 'Yisrael, a prince who overcomes'! The 'root' of the name 'Yisrael' is 's'ra/sara' **[שרא- 'read right to left- alef-resh-shin'] It means not only 'one who wrestles', but 'one who prevails/overcomes' AND becomes a 'prince'. In all of Ya'akob's/Jacob's wrestling with men, with YHWH and the situations he had been through, he would, in time, become a **PRINCE WHO OVERCOMES!**

THERE IS NO WRESTLING WITH THE MIGHTY ONE THAT IS NOT COSTLY. All of our *'transitions in the ruach/spirit'* mean that not only do we **GAIN** something *'from'* YHWH, but we also **LOSE** something *'within our own soul-life'*. What is lost *'makes room'* for that heavenly acquisition. This is why the rest of the above verse says,

"...and he limped upon his hip."

The *'natural/human strength'* of Ya'akob's/Jacob's *'soul-life'* had been touched by the *'execution stake'* that night. The *'change of his name'* from *'Ya'akob/Jacob to Yisrael'* was testimony to this. There was a *'reduction'* in Ya'akob's/Jacob's ability to *'trust in his own strength'*... **HE LIMPED**. But, there was also an **ADDING TO** of YHWH's power... **RESURRECTION LIFE... THE SUN/SON ROSE UPON HIM**. There is **NO LIMITATION IN THAT LIFE!** Ya'akob/Jacob never forgot that experience. He was a *'marked man'*. So, this is the meaning of the *'change in the name'* of that place from *'Peniel to Penuel'*. There is an interesting verse in the book of the navi/prophet Yeshayahu/Isaiah. It says at the end,

"...the lame take the prey." (Yeshayahu/Isaiah 33:23b KJV)

So truly, what is **IMPOSSIBLE** with men becomes **POSSIBLE** with the Mighty One. To quote Rav Sha'ul to the Corinthian assembly,

"And HaAdon [The Master] said to me, "My Chesed [Grace] is ad kahn (sufficient for the purpose, enough) for you, for My ko'ach (power) is perfected in weakness. With lev samei'ach [rejoicing of heart] therefore will I boast in my weaknesses that the gevurah [power] of Moshiach might be a shelter over me." (11 Corinthians 12:9 OJB- definitions mine)

Beloved, what we have read **IS WHAT YHWH IS OUT TO DO IN ALL OF OUR LIVES**, if we are truly to know the life that expresses His glory. He is not afraid of our stubbornness. He is not fearful of our potential for sinfulness. He is bringing us all to our own *'Peniel'* in order to bring us **THROUGH TO THE RISING OF HIS SON** in our hearts... to our *'Penuel'*. Amein!

Ya'akob/Jacob Passes The Test- A Word From My Heart

Finally, Ya'akob/Jacob faces his greatest fear. He comes *'face to face'* with his brother Esav/Esau. I'm sure it was one of the hardest things that he had ever done. Yet, he did it and as a result was allowed to re-enter Canaan. However, the Jewish Rabbi's say, there were things that Ya'akob/Jacob did in that encounter that would prove detrimental to him and to his future descendants as well. In the *'prophetic time period'* identified as the *'latter portion of the Achareit HaYamim/The Latter Days'* the time in which the Great Tribulation approaches, the future descendants of Ya'akob/Jacob (**Jewish Yisrael today**) are still found to be at odds with Esav's/Esau's descendants. One very important point must be brought to light on this. ****[On one side, the *'physical kingdom'* of Edom of old is centered in what can be identified as present-day Jordan. The modern nation of Yisrael has and still suffers within the sphere of that conflict. **However, at the same time, a new darker reality is becoming manifest. *'Edom'* is progressively evolving into a very *'complex spiritual/physical existence'*. The Nevi'im/prophetic writings contained within the Hebrew Scriptures of the TaNaKh witness to this reality. Edom today is NO LONGER CONTAINED within a set *'physical earthly***

location'. Most Christian prophetic teaching completely fails to understand this critical fact. Edom today is, in 'spirit', manifesting in 'two realms of existence': 1) 'Physical people groups', and 2) The ability to operate from numerous 'physical national/geographic locations/countries'. These locations/countries are active today within both Eastern and Western hemispheres! What is YHWH's answer? It is found in the small, seemingly insignificant, book of Obadyah/Obadiah.

"But upon Mt. Tziyon [Mt. Zion] shall be deliverance, and there shall be kodesh (holiness); and the Beis Ya'akov [House of Jacob/the Jewish house of Yisrael] shall possess their inheritances.

And the Beis Ya'akov [House of Jacob/Jewish house of Yisrael] shall be an eish (fire), and the Beis Yosef [House of Joseph/Non-Jewish-Scattered House of Joseph ***(10-tribes of Northern Yisrael) a flame, and the Beis Esav [House of Esav/Esab] for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the Beis Esav[House of Esav/Esab] ; for Hashem [YHWH] hath spoken."* (Obadyah/Obadiah 1:17-18 OJB-definitions/explanation mine)**

The above is YHWH's answer to what has been written above concerning the '**physical national/geographic locations/countries**' in which the '**final existence of Edom will be manifest**'. Notice, the Jewish house of Yisrael is referenced and said to be '*a fire*'. Then notice, the Non-Jewish house of Yosef/Ephraim is also referenced. The verse reads, this '*house will be a flame*'. What is YHWH revealing? The final ability to overcome this '*Last Day manifestation of Yisrael's nemesis*' will not come by either one of the houses of Yisrael alone. The IDF, the Jewish house of Yisrael's military wing, won't be able to do it on their own. Neither will the military ability of the Non-Jewish house of Yosef/Ephraim. **IT WILL TAKE BOTH HOUSES TOGETHER TO DEFEAT THIS MULTI-FACETED LAST DAY MANIFESTATION OF THE HOUSE OF EDOM/ESAV-ESAU!**

The particular '*how to's*' of this promise I cannot comment on fully at this time. However, this one thing I know... **YHWH CANNOT LIE!** The restoration of the Whole House of Yisrael is the key. Neither house alone will be able to accomplish this. Neither will a '*replacement entity*' called '*church*'. YHWH's '*prophetic instrument*' through which His eternal/redemptive purposes will be realized has been Yisrael. **IT WILL ALWAYS BE YISRAEL!** Even though YHWH's nation/Whole House of Yisrael is broken and divided presently, the verse above **PROVES** that He **WILL RESTORE HIS BROKEN HOUSE** and **TOGETHER** will bring to us **NITZACHON B'MASHIACH/VICTORY IN MESSIAH!!!**

Beloved, it has been my experience that YHWH **never** gives us His whole plan ahead of time. It comes as we humble ourselves and **DO WHAT WE KNOW TO DO, WHERE WE ARE RIGHT NOW!** The restoration of the Whole House has begun, but the restoration of the returning house of Yosef/Ephraim is **NOT READY FOR THE REST OF THE STORY**. While we have begun and have made certain measures of progress along the way, we are proving each step taken along the way that we are **NO WHERE NEAR** the place we should be! All our Torah knowledge has gotten us is, we are now becoming more aware of the ability to use the '*left side of the book with the right side*'. However, we still wound and tear down one another, except now we can do it in Hebrew!!! **YHWH FORGIVE US**. Why would brother Judah, the house of Jewish Yisrael, want to be **ONE** with us? He has enough issues within his own house (**Judaism**) with all its

religious factions and fractured schisms... **WHY WOULD HE INVITE ANOTHER SCHISM INTO THE EQUATION?**

No, I think not. I share the above to shine a ray of hope into our hearts. A call to return to 'the altar of intercession' for the returning house of Yosef/Ephraim. A call to find that place at the feet of our blessed Master, Adon/Lord Yeshua, for a heart like His. A heart that is broken and contrite. A heart that cries out in prayer for the heart of YHWH to be formed in us. The promise is clear. There will be a people who will break through despite our terrible condition at present. A people who will have humbled themselves **TO BELIEVE** upon the death, burial and resurrection of The Son, YHWH's manifestation as the Son on The Physical/Historic Execution Stake ****[Which Rav Sha'ul/Paul calls the POWER OF THE MIGHTY ONE TO SALVATION- Yet, it is not only the 'physical stake' upon which he died, but the PRINCIPLE OF THAT EXECUTION STAKE UPON WHICH WE ARE CALLED TO EMBRACE DAILY!]** to die to our own independent/self-willed Hebraic religiosity. To lay hold of YHWH until we hate our flesh and love our Abba **MORE THAN OUR OWN LIVES!!!** Until we find that place where the resurrection of our Master's heart and spirit **IS EXPERIENCED IN US**. O YHWH... please do in us what must be done, not so we may attain a new level of mental, Hebraic, Torah oriented accomplishment for our own sense of self-importance. **NO!** But, that the prayer of Rav Sha'ul maybe experienced personally in our lives,

“My yeladim [children], for whom again I suffer chevlei leydah (birth pains) until Moshiach [Messiah] is formed in you.” (Galatians 4:19 OJB- definitions mine)

As we have discussed above, YHWH appeared to Ya'akov/Jacob through the **MAN (The Pre-Incarnate Mashiach/our Adon Lord Yeshua)**. The blessing included the 'change of name' from 'Ya'akov/Jacob to Yisrael/Israel'. It also included the passing of the 'same blessing' given to Abraham, his grandfather, and his father Yitz'chak/Isaac... **THE PROMISE OF MULTIPLICITY!** This 'promise also included' that 'kings and nations will come forth from him'. Then, lastly, the promise of the **PHYSICAL INHERITANCE** of The Land of Yisrael was also given to Ya'akov/Jacob and his descendants too .

“And Elohim [The Mighty One] appeared unto Ya'akov [Jacob] again, when he returned from Padan Aram, and made a berakhah [blessing] upon him.

And Elohim [The Mighty One] said unto him, Shimcha [Your Name] is Ya'akov; shimcha [your name] shall not be called any more Ya'akov [Jacob], but Yisroel shall be shemecha [your name]; and He called shmo [his name] Yisroel.

And Elohim said unto him, I am El Shaddai [The Lord Almighty/The Many Breasted One]; be fruitful and multiply; a Goy (nation) and a Kehal Goyim [Company/Assembly of Nations] shall be from thee, and Melechim [Kings] shall come out of thy loins;

And HaAretz [The Land] which I gave Avraham and Yitzchak, to thee I will give it, and to thy zera [physical seed] after thee will I give HaAretz [The Land].

And Elohim [The Mighty One] went up from him in the makom [place] where He talked with him.” (B'reshet/Genesis 35:9-13 OJB- definitions mine)

After this encounter, Raqu'el/Rachel begins to give birth somewhere between Beit'el and Ephratah. It doesn't go well. Rachel dies giving birth to Ya'akov's/Jacob's twelfth son... Benyamin/Benjamin! He is the only one of Ya'akov's/Jacob's sons to be born in The Land! It is

interesting to note that it is not until this last son is born that Ya'akob/Jacob is actually called by his new name... **YISRAEL. (B'reshheet/Genesis 35:21)** With the birth of Benyamin/Benjamin the 'next step' in YHWH's 'eternal/redemptive purpose' is ready. Now, the **MAN** gives place to the **NATION**. The **INDIVIDUAL** gives way to the **CORPORATE FAMILY**.

Yet, it is not without great cost. Ya'akob/Jacob loses the woman he so dearly and passionately loved. Raqu'el/Rachel passes from the scene. There is another deep lesson that is being portrayed for us in the passing of Raqu'el/Rachel. In studying the Torah, we learn a very important principle that governs certain relationships... marriage being one of them. In the 'Sh'bi'ktav/written Torah' we learn it is forbidden for a man to be married to two sisters. (**Wayikra/Leviticus 18:18**) What may have been allowed 'outside' of The Land 'cannot be allowed' once Ya'akob/Jacob has returned. The 'instructions of Torah' must be fully observed there. So, Rachel is removed in order to 'keep things within the 'parameters' of YHWH's holiness.

Yitz'chak/Isaac, Ya'akob's/Jacob's father also passes away in this parasha. So, even though Ya'akob/Jacob is allowed re-entry into The Land, there is a 'cost' involved. We, who are a part of the 'returning house of Yosef-Ephraim' have some things to learn along these lines too. As we are being 'repatriated' to our Yisraelite/Hebraic heritage, being 'readied' for our own 'return to The Land and full restoration of the Whole House of Yisrael', there will be a 'cost' for us too. In our 'exile, scattering and regathering' there is much chesed/grace being shown to us. YHWH does not expect us to become Torah giants overnight. However, as our 'love for Him increases' **SO MUST OUR LOVE FOR HIS WAYS**. We must set our hands to the plow, His Torah and **NOT LOOK BACK** to our 'former days of ignorance'. (**Luke 9:62**) Now, is the time to begin moving our hearts and lives 'back into synch' with Abba's Torah. **WHILE TORAH IS NOT LAW, IT IS NOT MERELY GOOD SUGGESTIONS EITHER!** May we sh'mah (**hear and obey**), as YHWH by His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness is teaching us His loving ways. Amen.

We say the following blessing as we continue each week's study of Torah...

*Chazak u'Baruch...
Strength and Blessing!*

This week's Torah Parasha reading...

[Parasha 8: Vayishlach/He Sent](#)