

## Genesis 35:1-21 • The Struggle for Spiritual Purity

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1. (v.1) Past issues of **anger** may have future **consequences**.
2. (v.2-3) Issues of spiritual **purity** always extend to those closest to us who have the most earthly **influence** over us.
3. (v.4-5) One of the consequences of past issues in our life may be a **reputation** that has an adverse effect on **others**.
4. (v.6-15) Another consequence may be personal **doubt** that past issues have somehow nullified God's **promises**.
5. (v.16-21) There may always be **forgiveness**, but that does not always erase subsequent **consequences**.

### ***Some of the ways God redeemed bad situations in this chapter and turned them into something of value:***

- Just like in Abraham's case, God used an incident to create a healthy **fear** in the people around him who might be jealous or envious of his **prosperity**.
- God used the previous incidents of chapter 34 to cause Jacob to finally do something about the **idolatry** in his midst.
- God used the flight to Bethel to **reaffirm** the Abrahamic Covenant and to **reinforce** Jacob's name change.