

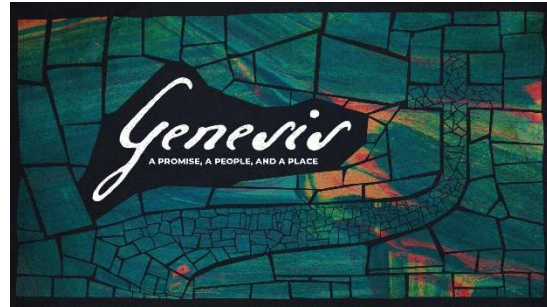
Sermon Discussion Guide

Date: April 7, 2024

Text: Genesis 34 - 36

Preacher: Brad

Link to Sermon: [Click Here](#)



SUMMARY

Big Idea: God's Glory is Revealed in Grace and Truth

Much like an eclipse, chapter 34 is a dark passage in which God is not mentioned. Rape, Deceit, Murder are the main plot points. Along the way, the story portrays the two errors of trying to deal with and remedy the problem of sin, either lacking truth or lacking grace. At stake is the covenant promises of God, and the Lord's glory being revealed in faithful witness to bless the nations. Jacob, and his sons, Simeon and Levi, fail miserably. The Lord comes in chapter 35, full of grace and full of truth. The result is repentance, faith, and worship - things which cannot come about if either grace or truth is lacking. Grace and Truth go together, if one is absent, the other is forfeited. Grace and Truth must be held, and must be guarded against doubt. Such doubts come in the realistic tension of living in the "already" and "not yet" of God's promises depicted in 35:16 through 36 where we see sin continues, death continues, and the nations, Esau and his family are prospering.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Genesis 34

1. How is this chapter similar to a total solar eclipse?
2. How do Shechem's actions in verse 2 relate to the Fall in Genesis 3?
 - a. What impact does that connection have on the story?
3. How are Shechem, Hamor, and Jacob shown to be "all grace and no truth"?
4. How does Jacob's approach of "peace and tolerance at all costs" put the covenant promises in jeopardy? How does that same approach today compromise the gospel?
5. How are Simeon and Levi shown to be "all truth and no grace"?
6. What do these errors look like in our world today?
 - a. Why do they both fail to remedy the sin problem?
7. Which side do you lean toward - lacking truth or lacking grace?
 - a. In what circumstance do you switch or drift back and forth? Why?

Read Genesis 35:1-15

8. Where do you see the Lord responding in full grace and full truth?
 - a. What are the results? What does it produce?
9. How are truth and grace tied together? (To lack one is to forfeit the other)
10. Interact with the following quote - why or how is it true, and what's your takeaway?
 - a. Grace without Truth is not Gracious; Truth without Grace is not Truthful
11. What is God's corrective measure for dealing with Jacob, Simeon and Levi's failed evangelism?
 - a. How does that relate to you?

Read (or reference) Genesis 35:16 - 36:43

12. When are you tempted to doubt God's Grace, or Truth?