

The Rape of Dinah (c. 1902 BC)

Genesis 33:18–34:31

Jacob Camps At Shechem

33:18 After he left Paddan Aram, Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem in the land of Canaan, and he camped near the city.
 19 Then he purchased the portion of the field where he had pitched his tent; he bought it from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of money.
 20 There he set up an altar and called it "The God of Israel is God."

Dinah (around 13 years old) is Raped by Shechem

34:1 Now Dinah, Leah's daughter whom she bore to Jacob, went to meet the young women of the land.
 2 When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, who ruled that area, saw her, he grabbed her, forced himself on her, and sexually assaulted her.
 3 Then he became very attached to Dinah, Jacob's daughter. He fell in love with the young woman and spoke romantically to her.

Shechem Asks for Dinah's Hand in Marriage

4 Shechem said to his father Hamor, "Acquire this young girl as my wife."
 5 When Jacob heard that Shechem had violated his daughter Dinah, his sons were with the livestock in the field. So Jacob remained silent until they came in.
 6 Then Shechem's father Hamor went to speak with Jacob about Dinah.
 7 Now Jacob's sons had come in from the field when they heard the news. They were offended and very angry because Shechem had disgraced Israel by sexually assaulting Jacob's daughter, a crime that should not be committed.
 8 But Hamor made this appeal to them: "My son Shechem is in love with your daughter. Please give her to him as his wife.
 9 Intermarry with us. Let us marry your daughters, and take our daughters as wives for yourselves.
 10 You may live among us, and the land will be open to you. Live in it, travel freely in it, and acquire property in it."
 11 Then Shechem said to Dinah's father and brothers, "Let me find favor in your sight, and whatever you require of me I'll give.
 12 You can make the bride price and the gift I must bring very expensive, and I'll give whatever you ask of me. Just give me the young woman as my wife!"

Jacob's Sons Set Circumcision as Requirement

13 Jacob's sons answered Shechem and his father Hamor deceitfully when they spoke because Shechem had violated their sister Dinah.
 14 They said to them, "We cannot give our sister to a man who is not circumcised, for it would be a disgrace to us.
 15 We will give you our consent on this one condition: You must become like us by circumcising all your males.
 16 Then we will give you our daughters to marry, and we will take your daughters as wives for ourselves, and we will live among you and become one people.
 17 But if you do not agree to our terms by being circumcised, then we will take our sister and depart."
 18 Their offer pleased Hamor and his son Shechem.
 19 The young man did not delay in doing what they asked because he wanted Jacob's daughter Dinah badly. (Now he was more important than anyone in his father's household.)
 20 So Hamor and his son Shechem went to the gate of their city and spoke to the men of their city,
 21 "These men are at peace with us. So let them live in the land and travel freely in it, for the land is wide enough for them. We will take their daughters for wives, and we will give them our daughters to marry.
 22 Only on this one condition will these men consent to live with us and become one people: They demand that every male among us be circumcised just as they are circumcised.
 23 If we do so, won't their livestock, their property, and all their animals become ours? So let's consent to their demand, so they will live among us."
 24 All the men who assembled at the city gate agreed with Hamor and his son Shechem. Every male who assembled at the city gate was circumcised.

Dinah's Brothers, Simeon and Levi, Kill Every Male in Shechem

25 In three days, when they were still in pain, two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, each took his sword and went to the unsuspecting city and slaughtered every male.
 26 They killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the sword, took Dinah from Shechem's house, and left.
 27 Jacob's sons killed them and looted the city because their sister had been violated.
 28 They took their flocks, herds, and donkeys, as well as everything in the city and in the surrounding fields.
 29 They captured as plunder all their wealth, all their little ones, and their wives, including everything in the houses.
 30 Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought ruin on me by making me a foul odor among the inhabitants of the land—among the Canaanites and the Perizzites. I am few in number; they will join forces against me and attack me, and both I and my

family will be destroyed!”

31 But Simeon and Levi replied, “Should he treat our sister like a common prostitute?”

Jacob’s Journeys (c. 1902–1900 BC)

Genesis 35:1–27

God Tells Jacob to Move to Bethel

1 Then God said to Jacob, “Go up at once to Bethel and live there. Make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau.”

2 So Jacob told his household and all who were with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods you have among you. Purify yourselves and change your clothes.

3 Let us go up at once to Bethel. Then I will make an altar there to God, who responded to me in my time of distress and has been with me wherever I went.”

4 So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods that were in their possession and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob buried them under the oak near Shechem

5 and they started on their journey. The surrounding cities were afraid of God, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob.

6 Jacob and all those who were with him arrived at Luz (that is, Bethel) in the land of Canaan.

7 He built an altar there and named the place El Bethel because there God had revealed himself to him when he was fleeing from his brother.

8 (Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died and was buried under the oak below Bethel; thus it was named Oak of Weeping.)

God Changes Jacob’s Name to Israel

9 God appeared to Jacob again after he returned from Paddan Aram and blessed him.

10 God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, but your name will no longer be called Jacob; Israel will be your name.” So God named him Israel.

11 Then God said to him, “I am the sovereign God. Be fruitful and multiply! A nation—even a company of nations—will descend from you; kings will be among your descendants!

12 The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you. To your descendants I will also give this land.”

13 Then God went up from the place where he spoke with him.

14 So Jacob set up a sacred stone pillar in the place where God spoke with him. He poured out a drink offering on it, and then he poured oil on it.

15 Jacob named the place where God spoke with him Bethel.

Rachel Dies During the Birth of Benjamin

16 They traveled on from Bethel, and when Ephrath was still some distance away, Rachel went into labor—and her labor was hard.

17 When her labor was at its hardest, the midwife said to her, “Don’t be afraid, for you are having another son.”

18 With her dying breath, she named him Ben-Oni. But his father called him Benjamin instead.

19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

20 Jacob set up a marker over her grave; it is the Marker of Rachel’s Grave to this day.

Jacob’s Sons

22b Jacob had twelve sons:

23 The sons of Leah were Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn, as well as Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun.

24 The sons of Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin.

25 The sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s servant, were Dan and Naphtali.

26 The sons of Zilpah, Leah’s servant, were Gad and Asher.

These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan Aram.

Reuben Sleeps With Bilhah

21 Then Israel traveled on and pitched his tent beyond Migdal Eder.

22a While Israel was living in that land, Reuben had sexual relations with Bilhah, his father’s concubine, and Israel heard about it.

Jacob Returns Home to Isaac

27 So Jacob came back to his father Isaac in Mamre, to Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had stayed.