January 25 Answers

1) The rape of Dinah has great significance in the story of Jacob: (1) it explains why Jacob later **cursed** Simeon and Levi's anger and prophesied that they would be **scattered** in Israel (Gen 49:7), (2) it sets the stage for further **problems** within Jacob's family (**Reuben** and Bilhah), (3) it was used by God to call Jacob to renewed **loyalty** (all **idols** were removed), (4) it illustrates the **danger** of settling near a wicked city (Lot in Sodom), and (5) it highlights God's supernatural **protection** of Jacob and His faithfulness in spite of Jacob's tendency to get himself into trouble. Jacob worshipped God at Bethel, and God blessed him. He continued his journey south and finally returned home to his father Isaac.