

The Rape of Dinah (c. 1902 BC)

Genesis 33:18–34:31

Jacob Camps At Shechem

33:18 And Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem which *is* in the land of Canaan, on his way from Paddan-Aram. And he camped before the city.

19 And he bought a piece of land where he pitched his tent for one hundred pieces of money from the hand of the sons of Hamor, father of Shechem.

20 And there he erected an altar and called it “El Elohe Israel.”

Dinah (around 13 years old) is Raped by Shechem

34:1 Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.

2 And Shechem, the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her. And he took her and lay with her and raped her.

3 And his soul clung to Dinah, the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the girl and spoke tenderly to the girl.

Shechem Asks for Dinah’s Hand in Marriage

4 So Shechem said to Hamor his father, saying, “Get this girl for me as a wife.”

5 And Jacob heard that Dinah his daughter had been defiled, but his sons were with his flocks in the field. And Jacob kept silent until they came.

6 And Hamor, father of Shechem, went out to Jacob to speak with him.

7 And the sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard *it*. And the men were distressed and very angry because he had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by having sexual relations with the daughter of Jacob—something that should not be done.

8 And Hamor spoke with them saying, “Shechem my son is in love with your daughter. Please give her to him for a wife.

9 Make marriages with us. Give us your daughters and take our daughters for yourselves.

10 You shall dwell with us and the land shall be before you; settle and trade in it, and acquire *property* in it.”

11 Then Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, “Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you say to me I will do.

12 Make the bride price and gift as high as you like; I will give what you say to me. But give me the girl as a wife.”

Jacob’s Sons Set Circumcision as Requirement

13 Then the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and his father Hamor speaking deceitfully, because he had defiled Dinah their sister.

14 And they said to them, “We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to a man who *is* uncircumcised, for that *is* a disgrace for us.

15 Only on this *condition* will we give consent to you; if you will become like us—every male among you to be circumcised.

16 Then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take for ourselves your daughters, and we will live with you and become one family.

17 But if you will not listen to us, to be circumcised, then we will take our daughters and we will go.”

18 And their words were good in the eyes of Hamor and in the eyes of Shechem, the son of Hamor.

19 And the young man did not delay to do the thing, for he wanted the daughter of Jacob. Now he *was* the most honored of his father’s house.

20 Then Hamor and his son Shechem came to the gate of their city, and they spoke to the men of their city, saying,

21 “These men *are* at peace with us. Let them dwell in the land and let them trade in it. Now, behold, the land is broad enough for them. Let us take their daughters as wives, and let us give our daughters to them.

22 Only on this *condition* will they give consent to us, to live with us *and* to become one family—when every male among us *is* circumcised as they are circumcised.

23 Will not their livestock and their property and all their animals *be* ours? Only let us give consent to them so they will live among us.”

24 And all those who went out of the gate of his city listened to Hamor and Shechem. Every male was circumcised, all those who went out of the gate of his city.

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

25 And it happened *that* on the third day, while they were in pain, two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, the brothers of Dinah, each took his sword and came against the unsuspecting city and killed all the males.

26 They killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the edge of the sword, and they took Dinah from the house of Shechem and went out.

27 The *other* sons of Jacob came upon the slain and plundered the city, because they had defiled their sister.

28 They took their flocks and their cattle and their donkeys, and whatever *was* in the field.

29 They captured and plundered all that *was* in the houses—all their wealth, their little ones, and their women.

30 Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “You have brought trouble on me, making me stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites! I *am* few in number! If they gather against me and attack me, I will be destroyed—I and my household!”

31 But they said, “Shall he treat our sister like a prostitute?”

Jacob’s Journeys (c. 1902–1900 BC)

Genesis 35:1–27

God Tells Jacob to Move to Bethel

1 And God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there, and make an altar to the God who appeared to you when you fled from before Esau your brother.”

2 Then Jacob said to his household and to all who *were* with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods that *are* in your midst and purify yourselves and change your garments.

3 Then let us make ready and let us go up to Bethel, so that I can make an altar there to the God who answered me in the day of my trouble, and who has been with me on the way that I have gone.”

4 So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that *were* in their hands, and the ornamental rings that *were* in their ears. And Jacob buried them under the oak which *was* near Shechem.

5 Then they set out on their journey, and the terror of God was upon the cities that *were* all around them, so that they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.

6 And Jacob came to Luz which *was* in the land of Canaan (that *is* Bethel), he and all the people that *were* with him.

7 And he built an altar there and called the place El-Bethel, for there God had appeared to him when he fled before his brother.

8 And Deborah, the nurse of Rebekah, died. And she was buried below Bethel, under the oak. And its name was called Allon-Bacuth.

God Changes Jacob’s Name to Israel

9 And God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-Aram, and he blessed him.

10 And God said to him, “Your name *is* Jacob. Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” Then his name was called Israel.

11 And God said to him, “I *am* El-Shaddai. Be fruitful and multiply. A nation and an assemblage of nations shall be from you, and kings shall go out from your loins.

12 And *as for* the land that I gave to Abraham and to Isaac, I will give it to you. And to your descendants after you I will give the land.

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

14 And Jacob set up a pillar at the place where God had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. And he poured out a drink offering upon it, and poured oil on it.

15 And Jacob called the name of the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.

Rachel Dies During the Birth of Benjamin

16 Then they journeyed from Bethel. And when they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel went into labor. And she had hard labor.

17 And when her labor was the most difficult the midwife said to her, “Do not be afraid for you have another son.”

18 And it happened *that* when her life was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Ben-Oni. But his father called him Benjamin.

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

20 And Jacob erected a pillar at her burial site. That *is* the pillar of the burial site of Rachel unto this day.

Jacob’s Sons

23 The sons of Leah: The firstborn of Jacob *was* Reuben. Then Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun.

24 The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.

25 The sons of Bilhah, the female servant of Rachel: Dan and Naphtali.

26 The sons of Zilpah, the female servant of Leah: Gad and Asher. These *were* the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-Aram.

Reuben Sleeps With Bilhah

21 And Israel journeyed *on* and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Eder.

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

Jacob Returns Home to Isaac

27 And Jacob came to Isaac his father *at* Mamre, *or* Kiriath-Arba (that *is*, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac dwelled as aliens.