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A Biographical Study of Leah

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Leah

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. Leah and her spouse
 - A. The unexpected bride
 1. She was Laban's eldest daughter plagued with weak eyes (Ge. 29:16-17).
 2. She was secretly substituted by Laban for Rachel on the night of Jacob's wedding (Gen. 29:23).
 - B. The unloved wife
 1. She was unloved by Jacob (Gen. 29:31).
 2. In spite of this, God loved and blessed her (Gen. 29:31-35).
- II. Leah and her sons—She bore Jacob six of his 12 sons and his only recorded daughter.
- III. Leah and her servant
 - A. Laban gave Zilpah to Leah to help her (Gen. 29:24).
 - B. Leah gave Zilpah to Jacob for purposes of childbearing (Gen. 30:9).
- IV. Leah and her sister
 - A. The malice—Leah accused Rachel of stealing Jacob's love from her (Gen. 30:15).
 - B. The mandrakes
 1. Her son Reuben presented his mother with some mandrakes he had found (Gen. 30:14).
 2. Mandrakes were a leafy plant eaten by peasant women who supposed this would aid them in becoming pregnant.
 3. After eating them, Leah slept with Jacob and Issachar was born (Gen. 30:16-18).
- V. Leah and her sepulcher—Leah was later buried by Jacob along with Abraham and Sarah in the cave of Machpelah (Gen. 49:31).

STATISTICS

Father: Laban (Gen. 29:16)

Spouse: Jacob (Gen. 29:23)

Sons: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun (Gen. 35:23)

Daughter: Dinah (Gen. 30:21)

Sister: Rachel (Gen. 29:16)

First mention: Genesis 29:16

Final mention: Ruth 4:11

Meaning of her name: "Weary"

Frequency of her name: Referred to 34 times

Biblical books mentioning her: Two books (Genesis, Ruth)

Place of birth: Haran (Gen. 29:4, 16)

Place of death: Hebron (Gen. 49:30-31)

Important fact about his life: She bore Jacob six sons and one daughter (Gen. 30:21; 35:23).