

God Changes People > Genesis 28:1-22

28:1-9 Does God change people? One big example is seen here, with Isaac's very different attitude toward Jacob than we have seen up to this point: he seems to have accepted God's plans. Though not in the same way, even Esau's attitude toward his parents has changed – and the only difference is that God's plan is being fulfilled.

28:10-17 Yet the biggest change we see in this chapter is within Jacob. After a dream in which God reveals Himself and reaffirms His promises to Jacob, he wakes up with a new awareness not just of where he is, but of who the Lord is.

28:18-22 Jacob, then, is very different from when he first went to sleep: he will still struggle in many ways, but ultimately, he has been changed by God and he follows the Lord. This is why he responds with worship.

Context: Though Jacob has received his father's blessing, he still has to leave – both to avoid any wrath Esau might have as well as to find a wife. But more broadly, it is this journey that Jacob will go on which the Lord will use to change him, similar to how He changed Abraham on a journey.

Aim: All who read this chapter should see how the Lord's plans are not only best, but also how encountering the Lord brings real change as well.

Gospel: Encountering Jesus changed many people – Nathaniel being one of them (**John 1:43-51**).

Applications: Have you encountered the Lord? Have you been changed by Jesus? If so, are you responding in worship?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
