

The OT shows us in story what the NT tells us outright.

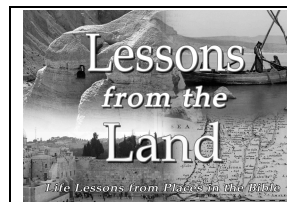
God loves those that others do not.
God loves those that are rejected by the world's values.
God wants the ones no one else wants.

God sees the wife or husband who is unwanted.
It's the reason God chooses the foolish to shame the wise.
It's the reason God chooses the weak to shame the strong,

God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. 1 Corinthians 1:28

Why?

So that we might grasp _____.



The Girl Nobody Wanted Genesis 29:15-35

The Story of Jacob, Laban, and Leah

Now Laban had two daughters. The older daughter was named Leah, and the younger one was Rachel. 17 There was no sparkle in Leah's eyes, but Rachel had a beautiful figure and a lovely face. 18 Since Jacob was in love with Rachel, he told her father, "I'll work for you for seven years if you'll give me Rachel, your younger daughter, as my wife."

Vs.16-18

Finally, the time came for him to marry her. ...22 So Laban invited everyone in the neighborhood and prepared a wedding feast. 23 But that night, when it was dark, Laban took Leah to Jacob, and he slept with her. ...25 But when Jacob woke up in the morning—it was Leah!

Vs.21-25

A week after Jacob had married Leah, Laban gave him Rachel, too. ... 30 So Jacob slept with Rachel, too, and he loved her much more than Leah. He then stayed and worked for Laban the additional seven years.

Vs. 28,30

So Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, "The Lord has noticed my misery, and now my husband will love me." 33 She soon became pregnant again and gave birth to another son. She named him Simeon, for she said, "The Lord heard that I was unloved and has given me another son." 34 Then she became pregnant a third time and gave birth to another son. She named him Levi, for she said, "Surely this time my husband will feel affection for me, since I have given him three sons!"

Vs. 31-34

She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "This time I will praise the Lord." So she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.

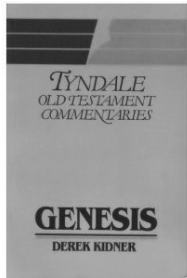
Vs. 35

Bad News we learn from the story:

1. Self Centered lives create consequences _____

2. Nothing you pursue in life truly satisfies.

Famous OT scholar Derek Kidner in his commentary on Genesis says about, “but in the morning, behold it was Leah, *he says this is a miniature of our disillusionment experienced from Eden onwards.*



This tale of Rachel being switched up for Leah is an analogy, of our disappointment with life in general.

There is always something in that first moment of longing, that fades away in reality. C.S. Lewis

3. As bad as life can be, _____ makes it even worse.

Vs. 32 Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, “It is because the Lord has seen my misery. **Surely my husband will love me now.**”

GOOD NEWS is always “gooder” then the bad news is bad.

1. God works with _____.
When you read the Bible and you see all this abuse, and stupidity and this stabbing one another in the back, on the part of the main characters, you discover that the Bible gives you again and again, men and women who God continues to work with who don’t deserve His grace, they don’t seek His grace, and often times show little or no appreciation after having been saved by it.

2. God works _____ weak people.

vs. 23 But that night, when it was dark, Laban took Leah to Jacob,

vs.27...we’ll give you Rachel, too—provided you promise to work another seven years for me.”

3. God works _____.

Vs.32 ...now my husband will love me.”

Vs. 33 “The Lord heard that I was unloved

Vs. 34 “Surely this time my husband will feel affection for me

In the Old Testament whenever you see the English translation “God” it’s from the Hebrew word *Elohim*.

But when you see the words The LORD it’s from the Hebrew word *Yahweh*, God’s personal name.

The only people in the OT who called God by his personal name were those that knew of His promised Seed, the Messiah.

Vs.35 She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “This time I will praise **the Lord.**” So she named him Judah.