

(I) THE FEAR OF ESAU

1. Jacob had feared his brother's wrath
 - a) He had fled from his wrath
 - b) He knew that he was in the wrong
 - i) In stealing Esau's birth-right (Genesis 27)
 - ii) In stealing Esau's blessing of the first-born (Genesis 27)
 - c) After many years away from Canaan, he still feared Esau
2. Every preparation had been made to prepare for this encounter with Esau
 - a) Handsome presents were prepared and offered to appease his brother (Genesis 32)
 - b) Jacob wrestled with God in prayer, seeking to secure a blessing (Genesis 32)

(II) THE FEARED DAY OF RECKONING

1. Esau was coming to see Jacob
 - a) He was not coming alone
 - b) He was accompanied by 400 men (Genesis 33:1)
2. Jacob prepared for the worst
 - a) He put the children from his maid-servants in the forefront (Genesis 33:2)
 - b) After them, Leah and her children (Genesis 33:2)
 - c) Finally Rachel and Joseph (Genesis 33:2)

(III) ESAU'S INITIATIVE

1. He ran to meet Jacob (Genesis 33:4a)
2. He embraced his long-lost brother (Genesis 33:4b)
3. He kissed his brother (Genesis 33:4c)

(IV) A DEEPLY EMOTIONAL MOMENT

1. The two brothers wept (Genesis 33:4)
2. They were reconciled
3. Jacob's fears were unfounded

(V) GOD'S HAND

1. Protection
2. Provision
3. Direction
4. Reconciliation