

Date: May 3, 2026

Pastor: Asa Hart

Title: “Let My People Go”

Series: Genesis – Beginnings

Text: Genesis 30:25-31:55

Main point: *It is the Lord, not dead idols, who prospers, protects, and is present with his covenant people.*

I. The Lord **Provides** for His Covenant People, 30:25-43 (*see also Gen. 27:26-29; 28:13-15; Exod. 1:1-7; Matt. 6:19-34; 10:16; Luke 12:32; Numbers 6:22-27*)

II. The Lord **Protects** His Covenant People, 30:1-42 (*see also Gen. 12:1-3; 28:13-15; Exod. 2:23-25; 3-4; 12-14; Hos. 11; Acts 12:1-24; 23:11; 2 Tim. 4:14-18*)

III. The Lord is **Present** with His Covenant People, 30:43-55 (*see also Exod. 3:12; 19:4-6; 20:1-6; 33:14; Is. 44; Matt. 1:18-25; 28:20b; 1 Thess. 1:9; Heb. 13:5-6*)

Questions for Reflection

1. Look at Genesis 30:27 and 31:30. Why does Laban consult with idols? What is the irony of that given his statement that Yahweh has blessed Jacob? Now read Genesis 31:33-35. Given that Rachel sits on these gods does it seem like she's stolen them in order to worship them? Why would she have stolen them? Ultimately who has the power to prosper and protect Jacob and his family? We may laugh at Laban's blindness here, but what are the gods our culture loves to consult in order to experience blessing and prosperity? Do you find yourself drawn by the "power" of these gods?
2. Read Genesis 31:1-24. Now look through Exodus 3, particularly noting vs. 4, 12 and 14. How does the Genesis text foreshadow the Exodus? How would this text be instructive for an Israelite standing on the stormy banks of the Jordan and casting a wishful eye to Canaan's fair and happy land? What enemies would he be facing? What was his biggest threat? How does God's presence answer that threat?
3. Read Exodus 33:12-16. Why is the promise that God will be with his people so important? What has just happened that causes God to say he will leave them? But what happens if God leaves his people? How does God dwell with His people today? Why is it so important that we remain in fellowship with the local church? What idols of prosperity and protection might tempt us to abandon the fellowship of the church?
4. Why does Laban say "the Lord watch between you and me" (vs. 49)? Has Laban been a very devout character? What happens to Laban after this? Who has the Lord watched over? How does this encourage us when we see the shysters, the politicians, the elites of today threatening the church to march to the beat of their drum?
5. Christ is speaking so that you might hear and in hearing you might turn to him, and in turning to him, he might heal you. What do you need to bring before him today?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 32:1-33:20, Andy McClellan

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