

I HAVE LOVED JACOB

by

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CHAPTER EIGHT

JACOB WAS NO ANGEL

LEST we be grossly misunderstood we think it is only just to elucidate further our doctrinal position with regard to Jacob.

1. *We are not seeking to “whitewash” Jacob.*

He does not need whitewashing, for he stands supreme as a man of faith who will ever command the respect and the admiration of all who would take the trouble to study the grandeur of his character.

2. *Jacob was not a holy saint or a man possessing what some call today “sinless perfection.”*

We make no such claims for him. There is no perfection outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was just a plain, humble man even as you and I, who sought faithfully to walk with God even as Enoch did in his day.

3. *On the theory which we believe to be sound, that God cannot deal on any covenant basis with a man who has not been converted, we believe that Jacob was such a converted man.*

But, we do not believe that he was converted on the night when the Angel wrestled with him. Using as a foundation the doctrine that we have just enunciated, that God cannot have covenant relationship with an unbeliever, we are obliged by all the laws of logic to date Jacob's conversion at a point prior to his transaction with his brother Esau.

The reason is simple:

The night that Jacob ran away from home to escape the wrath of Esau, the Lord Himself appeared to him and told him these solemn words, “**Behold, I am with thee and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of**” (Genesis 28:15).

God knew all that Jacob had done, his transaction with Esau, his so-called “deception” of his father Isaac, and yet this God said to Jacob, “**I am with thee.**”

4. *Abraham believed God, and that was accounted unto him for righteousness.*

And we think it is now proper in these concluding lines to pose the question, “What is righteousness?”

And if the critics of Jacob will first find the answer to this question, then they will have the key to all of the problems that surround God’s dealings with Jacob. Jacob was God’s man because he believed God.

~ end of chapter 8 ~

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