

Jacob's Journey to Haran and Back

AdSS16-Jacob reconciled with Esau

Map of Jacob's journey from Haran back to Canaan

1. Genesis 28:10-29:1

2. Genesis 31:1-21

3. Genesis 31:22-32:31

4. Genesis 33

(1) Background: Jacob left Laban for Canaan.

(2) At Mahanaim (near Peniel), Jacob sent a message to Esau. (Gen 32:3-5)

(3) Esau travelled from Mt Seir to meet Jacob (Blue arrow)

- (4) Comment on Jacob's message to Esau
- (a) Jacob remembered Esau's threat to kill him because of his deceit.
 - (b) Jacob wanted to reconcile with Esau.
 - (c) Jacob's message was couched in very humble terms, calling himself "Your servant Jacob." He addressed Esau as "my Lord". (Gen 32:4)
 - (d) In the message, Jacob would bring generous gifts for Esau.(Gen 32:5)



(5) Spiritual Lesson on Jacob's message to Esau:

- (a) If you wish others to have you in high regard, you must have high regard for others.
- (b) Kind to offer gifts to others.
- (c) Matthew 7:12.



THE GOLDEN RULE
Do unto others as you would
have them do unto you
Matthew 7:12

(6) Esau was coming with 400 men to meet Jacob. (Gen 32:6)

(7) Jacob was fearful and distressed and prayed to God. (Gen 32:7-13)

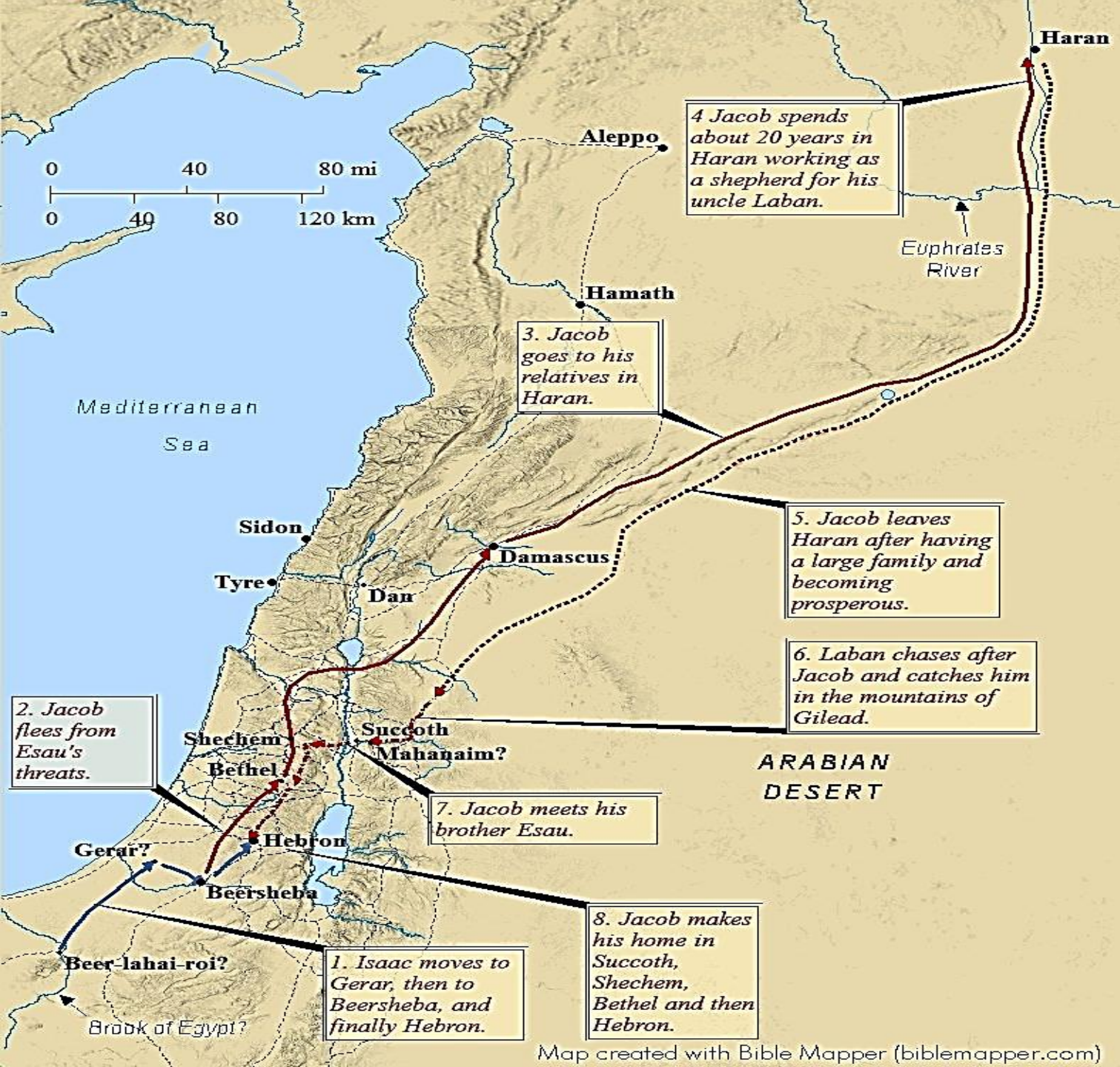


(8) Jacob selected gifts to reconcile with Esau. (Gen 32:14-15)

(9) Jacob sent the gifts ahead. He taught the servants to speak in humility to Esau to win Esau's reconciliation. (Gen 32:17-21)

(10) Fearful that Esau was coming to kill him and his family, he sent his family away. (Gen 32:22-23)

(11) Jacob wrestled with God. (Gen 32:24-30)



Map of Jacob's journey

(12) Video: 1:13:55-1:20:00
(Viewers are cautioned on the
inaccurate parts of the video)

(Source: The Bible Stories, Abraham
By Lube Production)

(13) Spiritual Lesson:

(a) When we are fearful and
distressed, do we pray?



Source: <https://www.dreamstime.com/royalty-free-stock-photo-christmas-reconciliation-image29150405>

(c) It is natural to have fear:

- Rational fear
- Irrational and excessive fear

(d) When fearful, read the Psalms. David was full of fear: Psalm 143. Psalm of deliverance: Psalm 91.

(e) How do we reconcile or show appreciation to another?

- Address the other person with high regard and respect.
- Giving gifts.

(f) God appeared to Jacob in his distress. Has God spoken to us in our distress?

(14) Jacob met Esau. (Gen 33:1-16)

- Jacob bowed down to Esau. (Gen 33:3)
- Esau ran and embraced Jacob. (Gen 33:4)
 - There was no animosity on Esau's part.
 - Esau never broached the subject of Jacob's deception.
 - Jacob was fearful over an event that did not take place by the grace of God.
- Proverbs 3:5,6.
- Video is inaccurate.

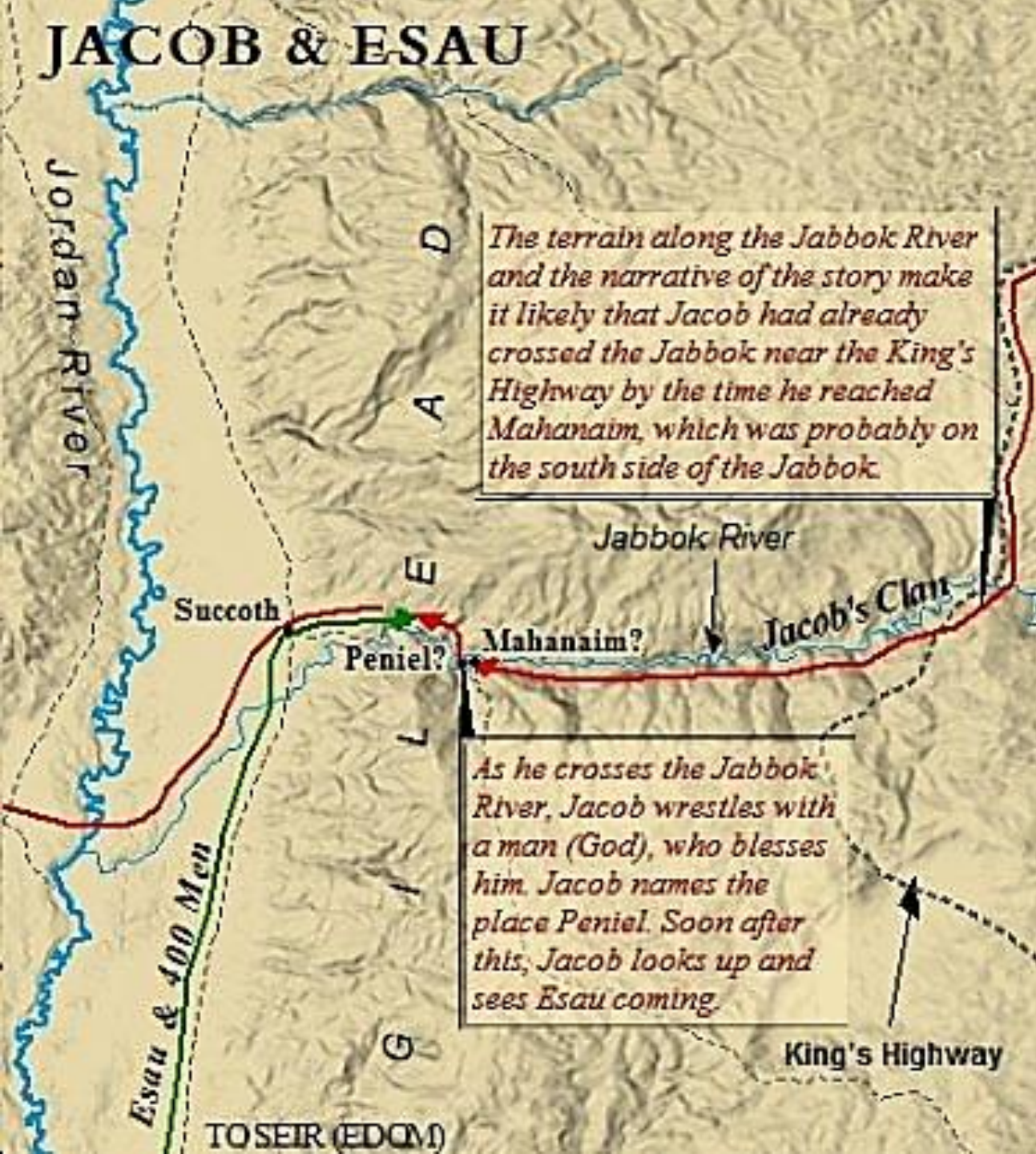
Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6



- Jacob referred to himself as Esau's servant. (Gen 33:5)
- Jacob's female servants and children bowed down to Esau. (Gen 33:6)
- All these flocks and herds are gifts to Esau. Jacob referred to Esau as his lord. (Gen 33:8)
- Jacob insisted that Esau accepts the gifts. He was so relieved that Esau had received him (Jacob) favourably. (Gen 33:10)
- When Jacob and Esau parted, Jacob paid deference to Esau by letting him go first. (Gen 33:14)
- Esau went back to Mt Seir. Jacob went on to Sukkoth and Shechem.

JACOB & ESAU



Map of Jacob and Esau meeting at Peniel. (Gen 33:1)

(15) Video: 1:20:20-1:24:14
(Viewers are cautioned on the
inaccurate parts of the video)

(Source: The Bible Stories, Abraham
By Lube Production)

(16) Spiritual Lesson:

- (a) In our distress, crying out to God.
- (b) Reconciling and paying respects to others.
- (c) Personal sharing.



"In my distress I cried unto the Lord, and he heard me."

Psalm 120:1