

## Shaking off Laban...

Genesis 30:27 reads, **“And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favor in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the Lord hath blessed me for thy sake”**. This textual understanding is the key to the breaking of emotional bondage ties to world dependency and will release a dependence on the direct source of complete prosperity. Jacob had worked for his prudent yet deceitful uncle Laban for over fourteen years with nothing to show for it that he could name as his. He barely owns his name and the tent that he lives in is borrowed. Poor Jacob is a slave of his own making and because of hope and love he is unaware of his real emotional servitude. His wives and his children are still technically the property of his uncle Laban and he is working, with great results, to increase Laban with no wages. He is totally blessed and highly favored yet he is still totally dependent on the system of servitude that makes a person think that they are getting ahead by offering them an opportunity to work hard for what is actually their promised inheritance. Under Laban’s system, Jacob can see what he desires but is always just a few years away from making it happen. It is in the plans but just not now. Laban is open and honest when he states that he is completely aware that all that he owns has been greatly multiplied because of Jacob’s favor with God. He can be this open because he is sure that Jacob is so hooked on this system of dreams and promises in exchange for more work that he is sure that Jacob doesn’t hear him with understanding. Laban’s only desire is to make sure that his cash cow doesn’t wise up and realize that he doesn’t need Laban at all. He hopes that Jacob doesn’t further realize that Laban, in fact, needs him.

What we see in Jacob is the movement from one kingdom to another kingdom by the manifest revelation of God renewing Jacob’s mind to achieve kingdom destiny and preordained purpose. Romans 12:2 says, **“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God”**. God was increasing the quality of Jacob’s thoughts so that he could understand that he was qualified for ownership and that it was appropriate for him to increase from the fruit of his work. Laban made it seem crazy that Jacob should want to possess what he had worked for and that simple wages could take that place of ownership and dominion. Jacob is moving from a kingdom of fallen man that is a hierarchical institution that is built on maximizing the curse of Adam by toil and hard work with only sweat as the reward. Jacob thought that he had to earn everything that he had and that his prosperity was to come from the generosity of men. Many of us are calling ourselves children of the light yet still seek the ways of darkness and slavery of triple overtime to make us prosperous while leaving us tired and unbalanced. When Jacob woke up and realized that Laban was not a provider but a taskmaster he began to make the divine shift.

The divine shift is when a person begins to move their dependence from their personal skills, resume, connections, past or current accomplishments or failures and man’s benevolence, as the way of achieving true soul success, to depending on the Word of God as the supplier of all needs. Jacob suddenly realized that if God was blessing a slave and the master was getting rich then it would be better to cut out the middle man and stop depending on man and start working for the blesser named Jesus Christ. Philippians 4:19 says, **“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus”**.