

14 July 2013: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: **The Life of Jacob (part 2): Blessed Deception?**

Scripture Text: Genesis 29:15-30

1. The world teaches us everything is relative and there is no absolute right or wrong. They teach situational ethics and this is creeping into the church.
2. It seemed that although Jacob lied and deceived his father, he was still blessed. But that isn't true. We cannot live any way we want and think that God is happy with our lives just because we have material blessings.
3. Jacob was one who only desired physical blessing from the Lord. He was not ready to face the responsibilities as a believer and to trust God. He gave the Lord conditions before becoming a believer. Although the Lord kept him safe and provided him bread and raiment, it was only due to God's mercy and not that Jacob has done right.
4. Jacob met Laban and wanted to marry Rachel and would work 7 years for her. Laban agreed on the surface but what was in his heart was to exploit Jacob. By the end of the 7 years, Laban gave Jacob another daughter Leah instead of Rachel. Jacob only realized this in the morning. Laban gave many reasons that the elder daughter had to marry first. Jacob then worked another 7 years for Rachel. Jacob, the deceiver, was deceived. The Lord is not happy with blessed deception as it will lead to great trouble.