

**HOW CAN WE KEEP FROM FEARING THOSE WHO SEEMINGLY  
HAVE THE POWER TO HARM US?  
LEARNING FROM THE LORD PROTECTION OF JACOB  
Genesis 31:17-55**

**I. OBEY THE LORD'S WORD: Jacob obeys and departs for Canaan (Review 1-16, 17-18)**

**II. UNDERSTAND THE LORD SOVEREIGNLY PROTECTS HIS CHILDREN and THUS TRUST IN HIM (17-42)**

**A. Do not fear man or circumstances:** While obeying the Lord, Jacob reacts out of fear and secretly departs for Canaan (17-21, 31)

**B. Realize no one can harm you apart from Lord allowing it for our ultimate good:** Laban sets out in hot pursuit for his household idols yet God intervenes behind the scenes to protect Jacob from harm (22-24)

**C. Realize God graciously protects us even in spite of our sin (25-42)**

1. Laban accuses Jacob of stealing his idols, searches and does not find them (25-35)

2. Jacob finally lets loose, revealing his faithful service, Laban's wickedness and the Lord's faithful blessing and protection (36-42)

**III. PRAISE AND WORSHIP THE LORD FOR THE RESULTS: Laban proposes peace, Jacob accepts and worships the Lord (43-55)**

**A. Laban amazingly proposes a peace treaty and Jacob accepts (43-53)**

**B. Jacob worships and Laban leaves, never to heard of again in Scripture (54-55)**