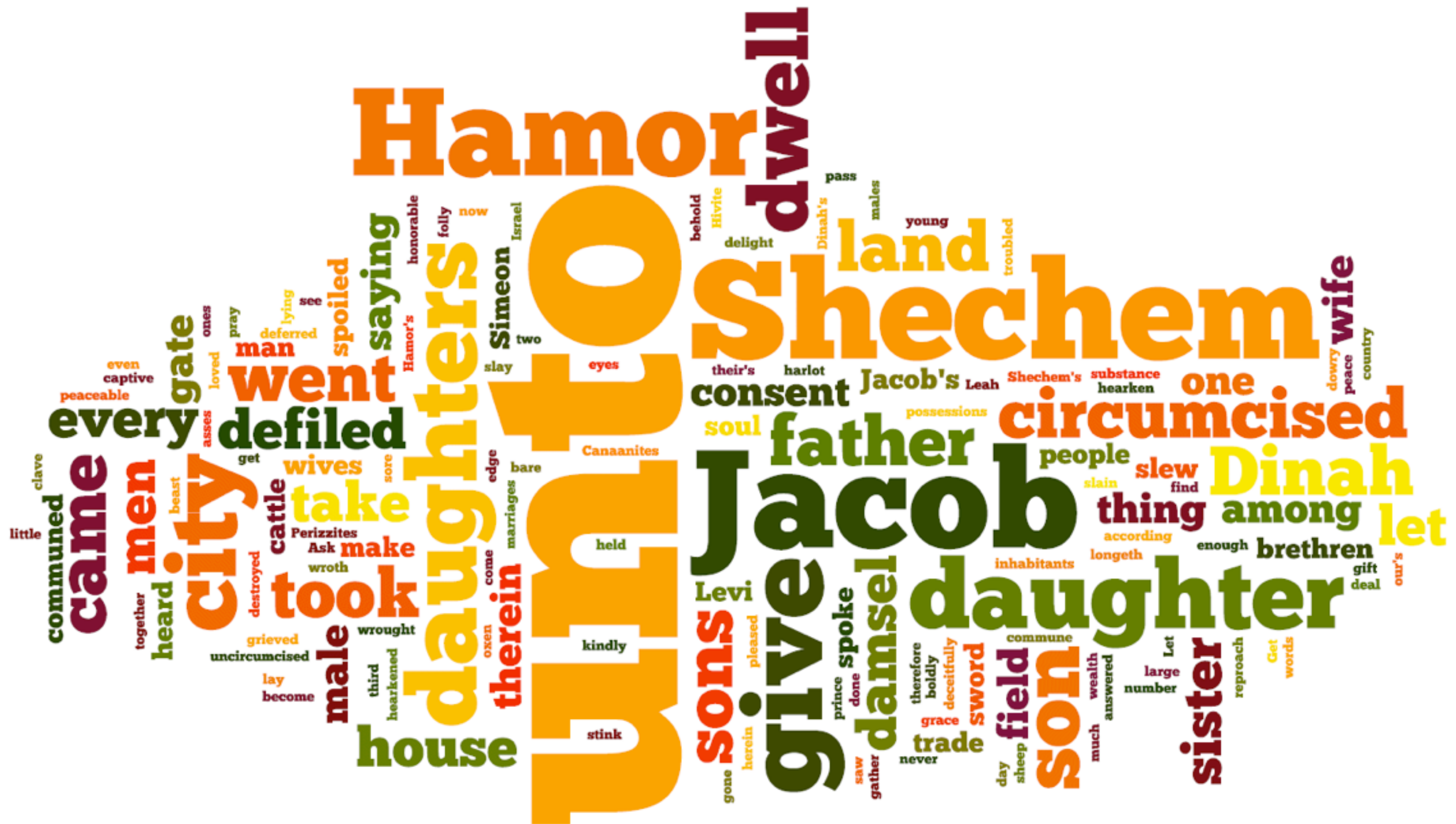


Genesis 34



Regarding Genesis 34

James Montgomery Boice - “Here and there in the Bible we come upon chapters that report such disgraceful deeds that it is difficult to know how to comment or preach on them. The thirty-fourth chapter of Genesis is such a chapter, for it tells of the rape of Jacob’s daughter Dinah by Shechem--son of Hamor, the king of Shechem--and of a bloody revenge on the city of Shechem by Jacob’s sons.”

“What are we to do with such a chapter? I have noticed in my study of the commentaries on Genesis that some writers simply pass over the incident. Arthur W. Pink is one. He wrote that he was leaving his readers to turn to it for themselves. Alexander MacLaren also skips over it.....Most interesting is H. C. Leupold. He provides some commentary. But when he gets to the end of these comments, he says: ‘We may well wonder if any man who had proper discernment ever drew a text from this chapter.’”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Background

1. Jacob has been commanded by God to return to the land of Canaan - Genesis 31:3
2. Jacob has been protected by God from the threat of Laban - Genesis 31
3. Jacob has been protected by God from the threat of Esau - Genesis 32-33
4. Jacob has settled his family in the land of Canaan near the city of Shechem - Genesis 33:18-20



Background

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4. Jacob has settled his family in the land of Canaan near the city of Shechem - Genesis 33:18-20
5. Genesis 34 is the first chapter in the Bible without any reference to God or His name

Dinah

1. Dinah was the youngest child and only daughter of Leah (Genesis 30:21). At this time she was about 14 years of age
2. Dinah went out to visit the daughters of the land

Jacob

1. Jacob made the decision to settle his family near Shechem without regard for the spiritual dangers or the spiritual opportunities
2. Jacob was did not take any family leadership when confronted with the vile sin against his covenant family of God but was silent
3. Jacob was more concerned about his physical safety than the murderous sins of his sons

Hamor and Shechem

1. Shechem's proclaimed "love" for Dinah was sinful and self-serving
2. Neither Hamor nor Shechem expressed any remorse for Shechem's sin against Dinah and Jacob's family
3. Hamor and Shechem were deceitful to Jacob and his family OR to the Shechemites OR both

Simeon and Levi

1. Simeon and Levi were driven by their fierce anger and cruel wrath - Genesis 49:7
2. Simeon and Levi profaned the sign of the Abrahamic covenant in order to accomplish their revenge on Shechem
3. Simeon and Levi showed disrespect for their father Jacob

The Big Picture

*“God is redeeming a people
for His Son,
by His Son,
to His own glory”*

The Big Picture

1. God is redeeming a people for His Son, by His Son, to His own glory

Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - “The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

The Big Picture

1. God is redeeming a people for His Son, by His Son, to His own glory
2. The seed of the serpent is ever active in attempting to derail God's chosen family, the line of the Seed of the Woman
3. The LORD God is patient and merciful but does not overlook sin - Genesis 49:1-7

Genesis 49:5-7

5 “Simeon and Levi are brothers; their swords are implements of violence.

6 “Let my soul not enter into their council; let not my glory be united with their assembly; because in their anger they slew men, and in their self-will they lamed oxen.

7 “Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; and their wrath, for it is cruel. I will disperse them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

Theme Statement

When parents do not exercise their God-given family leadership and responsibilities, it can cause great harm to the family and great collateral harm. But God in his mercy and grace preserved this failed family not because of any merit in them but because He is a covenant-keeping God.