

Jacob's Life Story

by K.P. Yohannan

God can take broken lives and turn them into something beautiful, as seen in the life story of Jacob.

Scripture: Hebrews 11:32

Topics: "Redemption", "Grace"

Description

K.P. Yohannan explores Jacob's life story, emphasizing that despite his deceitful actions and wasted years, God still identifies Himself as the God of Jacob, showcasing His ability to transform failures into something beautiful. Jacob, who was given a divine promise, chose a path of deception, yet God ultimately changed his name from 'deceiver' to 'Israel,' symbolizing his redemption. This narrative serves as a powerful reminder that God can restore and elevate those who have fallen, regardless of their past mistakes. Yohannan highlights that God's identity is tied to His grace, demonstrating that He can turn broken lives into vessels of honor.

Transcript

The list of names in Hebrews 11 underscores this truth. In this passage, men and women of great faith are noted--ones whom God Almighty approved. One might be shocked, however, to discover how many of them were restored spiritually following failures such as deception, drunkenness, adultery, idolatry and murder.

Consider Jacob. What a saga his life story is. From birth, God gave him a remarkable promise that he would be blessed and his older brother would serve him. With this kind of divine assurance, it would seem like Jacob would turn out to be the perfect saint. Instead, he became a crook who lied to his own father, stole his blessing and lived a life full of deceit. Jacob ended up wasting 20 precious years of his life.

I consider his biography one of the most interesting of them all. Here is why: Numerous times throughout the Bible, God reminds His people that He is "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob" (Exodus 3:15). In fact, in this same verse, God says, "This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation."

Toward the end of Jacob's journey, God changed his name, which means "deceiver," to Israel, meaning "Prince of God." So, why doesn't He say, "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac . . . and Israel"? How strange! How come He associates His name with a cheat who wasted two decades trying to do things his own way?

Through His name, His very identity, God wants to say to you and me, "I am still the God who makes failures into princes of God. I remain the God who takes broken lives--people with multiple divorces, sick in body because of sin, in prison for decades, labeled as losers, crazy folk nobody wants, outcasts with no hope--and turns them into something beautiful."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/kp-yohannan/jacobs-life-story/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net