

Sunday, October 31, 2021
"The Gospel Lives of Isaac & Jacob"
Summary of A Long Way Home
Genesis 30:25-31:55
Wayne Shelton

Jacob's flight from Mesopotamia is framed by redemptive history. Kent Hughes writes, "Looking back, it has parallels with Abraham's leaving the Mesopotamian city of Ur in obedience to God's call (cf. Gen 12:1-9) Looking forward, Jacob's exodus from Mesopotamia provides a prophetic outline of Israel's exodus from Egypt." And all of this is prophetic of the glorious exodus that believers would find in Christ, the ultimate Israel, who plundered the power of evil and led them out of bondage to Satan. The driving point of the narrative of Jacob's escape here in Genesis 31 is that God did it all – through his multiple interventions and constant protection. God would later do exactly the same in Moses' escape from Egypt. And so it now is in the ultimate exodus in Christ. All glory goes to God, *'For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen'* (Rom 11:36)." On this Reformation Sunday, we are reminded that is the nature of reformation. Francis Schaeffer in *No Little People* wrote, "We must do the *Lord's* work in the *Lord's* way." I believe this is *the* defining issue in our generation, and in every generation. Ray Ortlund reminds us, 'If we serve the Lord out of our own strengths, out of our own cool... we are not serving the Lord. We are insulting the Lord, while we flatter ourselves that we are serving the Lord.' He then writes, 'but if we will turn and humble ourselves, doing the Lord's work in the Lord's way then the Lord himself will enter into our work with his glorious power.'

