

Alpha Counseling Services
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Dear Friends,

I have been asked to speak at a church a few miles away on Mother's Day. I am asking for your prayers as I haven't spoken on Mother's Day in many years and I'm a little nervous! As I was studying the subject I began to see all the pain and heart ache found in the Old Testament revolving around motherhood and the competition between wives to have children. One of the great competitions was between Leah and Rachel both married to Jacob. As I was doing my research I found a thoughtful story of how God intervened in this sad story in a subtle and yet powerful way.

I have been reading a wonderful book by Jonathan Cahn titled The Book Of Mysteries. Rabbi Cahn is a born again believer in Jesus and brings to light thoughtful insight from both the Old and New Testaments. I really recommend his writings. I want to share his writing about the plight of Leah and God's mysterious way He blessed her and in a way people today.

THE CHILDREN OF LEAH

....."Do you know who Leah was?" asked the teacher. "I've heard of her," I replied. "One of the matriarchs of Israel?" "Yes. Leah was married to Jacob. Jacob's true love was Rachel. But he had been tricked into marrying Leah instead. In the end, he married both. But of all the matriarchs of Israel, Leah had the unhappy distinction of being unloved. And she knew it. It was the deep wound she always carried, the unceasing sorrow of her life. We have no idea how many tears she cried because of it, but undoubtedly they were many. But then something happened . . . Leah became fruitful, even more fruitful than Rachel. And when Leah bore her third son, she named him Levi. From Levi came the priesthood of Israel, and from Levi was born Moses. Through Moses came the Passover, the Exodus, the Ten Commandments, the Law, the sacrifices, the holy days, and the Tabernacle, the priesthood, the high priests, and the Temple. Through Moses, the children of Israel would enter the Promised Land. And through Moses would begin the writing of the Word of God, the Bible." "Who else did Leah bear?" I asked. "Judah," said the teacher. "From Judah came David. And from David came the royal house of Israel, the kings and princes of God's nation. From Judah came the kingdom of Israel and the words Jew and Jewish. And from Judah came Yeshua, Jesus, the Messiah, the hope and salvation of the world . . . all this from Leah's womb.

God chooses the children of Leah . . . **even to this day.**" "And who are the children of Leah to this day?" "Those who, through sorrows, wounds, rejection, emptiness, broken dreams, broken hearts, frustration, discontentment, pain, tears, emptiness, or simply the longing for something more than they have on earth . . . become born into the kingdom, born of God . . . and chosen for great and mighty things, the vessels through which His love and redemption come to the world . . . For God especially loves the unloved and the unlikely . . . the children of Leah."
Genesis 29:31-35; Isaiah 54:1, 4-8; Revelation 5:5

Debi and I are doing much better now and we are very aware and appreciative of your prayers for us. Alpha continues to minister to folks struggling with life with all its complexities.

Thank you and God Bless,

Richard

