**2023 Parasha Reading: #8 Name: Vayishlach Torah Reading: Genesis 32:4-36:43 Haftarah Reading: Obadiah 1-21 Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23**

**Torah Portion, Outlines and Questions for Discussion Genesis 32:4-36:43**

**Chapter 32:4- 21 “Yacov Fears Esau” cont. Chapter 32:22-32 “Yacov wrestles with Elohim ”**

**Chapter 33:1-20 “Yacov Meets Esau” Chapter 34:1-31 “The Defiling of Dinah”**

**Chapter 35:1-15 “Elohim Blesses and Renames Yacov” Chapter 35:16-29 “The Deaths of Rachel and Yitzhak”**

**Chapter 36:1-43 “Esau's Descendants”**

1. In your own words, describe why Yacov was afraid of Esau.
2. Compare and contrast how reacted in his meeting with Laban in last week’s parashah with his meeting with Esau in chapter 33.
3. **Scholar Review Questions**

a. With whom did Yacov wrestle?

b. Diving deeper into the meaning of this account, what was involved with Yacov’s wrestling match and its outcome?

1. If the messenger declares that Yacov’s name will be Israel in chapter 32, why does YHWH declare Yacov’s name change in chapter 35?
2. Yacov wrestles with YHWH and is renamed in chapter 32 and again in chapter 35. Why is that or does it matter?
3. What stands out to you in the account of Yacov meeting Esau?

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Chapter 34 recounts the tragic account of the defiling of Dinah.

1. What does this story reveal about the character of her brothers?
2. Why was it important to include this account in Scripture?

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1. Esau’s descendants are given an entire chapter, making them significant in the Bible. What or who stands out in this account and why?

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**Haftarah and Gospel Portions, Outlines and Questions for Discussion**

**Haftarah Parashah Obadiah 1-21**

**Chapter 1:1- 9 “Edom Will Be Humbled” Chapter 1:10-14 “Edom's Violence Against Jacob”**

**Chapter 1:15-18 “The Day of YHWH Is Near” Chapter 1:19-21 “The Kingdom of YHWH”**

Edom is featured importantly in Scripture, seemingly out of proportion for its tiny geographical size, and Obadiah (*Obadyah* in Hebrew) has much to say on this subject.

1. Who is Edom (can you list two other names of Edom), and why is YHWH so mad at them?
2. Verse 15 states, “For the day of יהוה (*YHWH*) is near upon all the nations. As you have done, it shall be done to you, your reward shall come back on your own head.” (TS2009) What is “the Day of YHWH”? Since this book was written about 2,500 years ago, what is meant by “is near”?
3. **Scholar Question**- Verse 20 states, “And that exiled force of Israelites [shall possess] what belongs to the Phoenicians as far as

Zarephath, while the Jerusalemite exile community of Sepharad shall possess the towns of the *Negev.”* (The Israel Bible JPS 1985) Who are the Sepharad?

**Gospel Parashah Matthew 2:13-23**

**Chapter 2:13- 15 “The Flight to Egypt” Chapter 2:16-18 “Herod Kills the Children”**

**Chapter 2:19-23 “The Return to Nazareth”**

This short account in Matthew is amazing to me, filled with men conspiring against YHWH, intrigue, murder, and several supernatural events.

1. Counting the many dreams occurring here, in your own words share what role they play in this account.
2. Why was Herod so against the Messiah that he killed all children aged two and under in Bethlehem and the surrounding area?
3. Verse 15 states, “And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.” (KJV) Where is that in the Bible?
4. Verse 23 states, “And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.” (KJV) What record do we have of this being spoken by the prophets?

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