

Split personality

2 natures in one person

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. Galatians 5:16-17



**Israel versus Jacob
2 natures in one person**

Genesis

Chapter 33



Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two maidservants. He put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear.
Genesis 33: 1-2

Jacob mode

MAID
and
her children

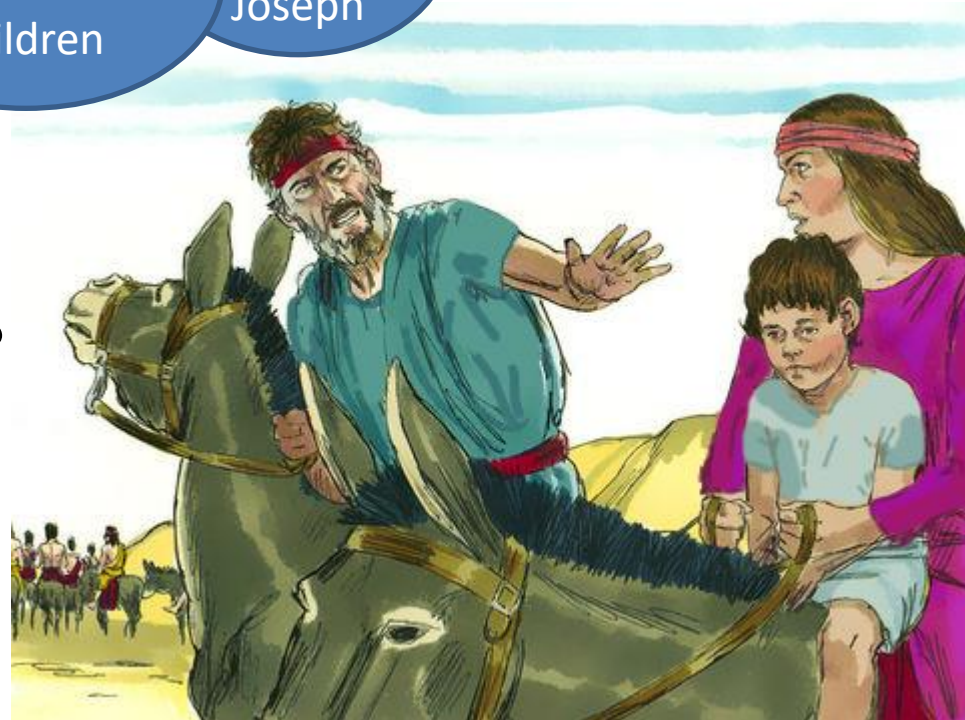
MAID
and
her children

LEAH
and her
children

RACHEL
and
Joseph

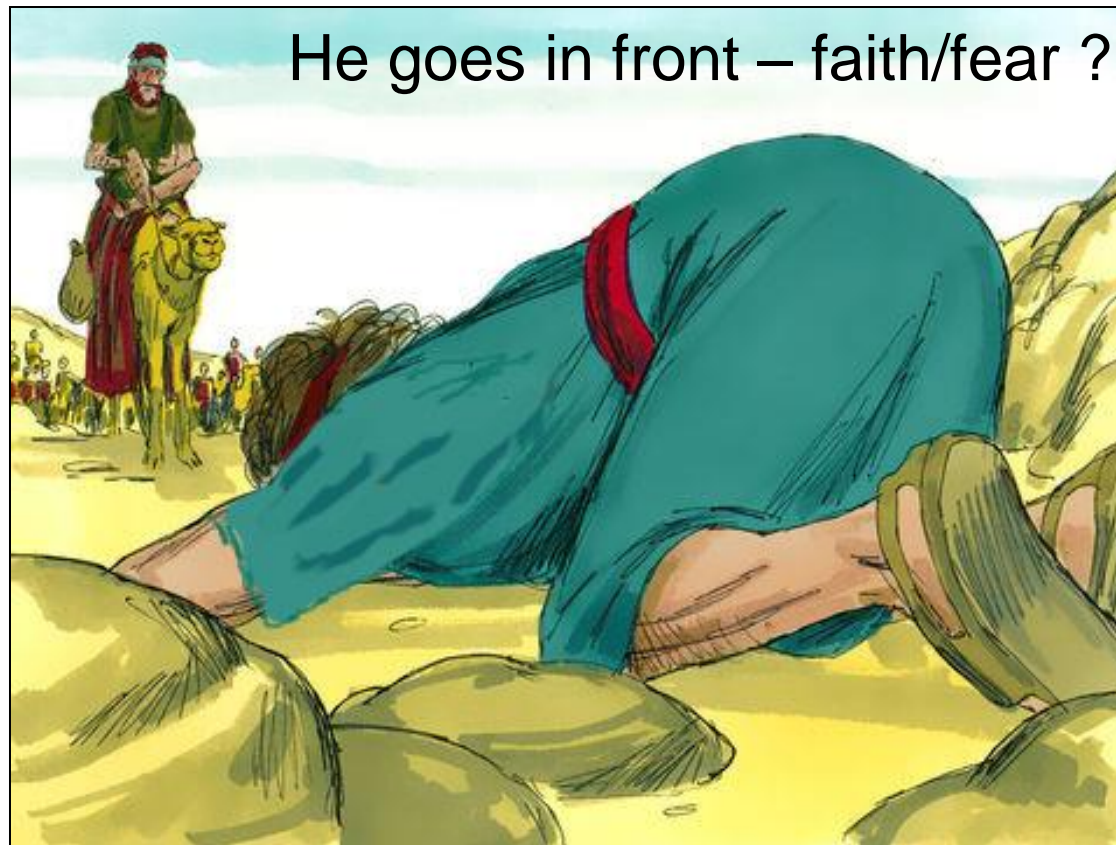
What must the others have felt ?

A father's effects on his children.



He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother.

v3

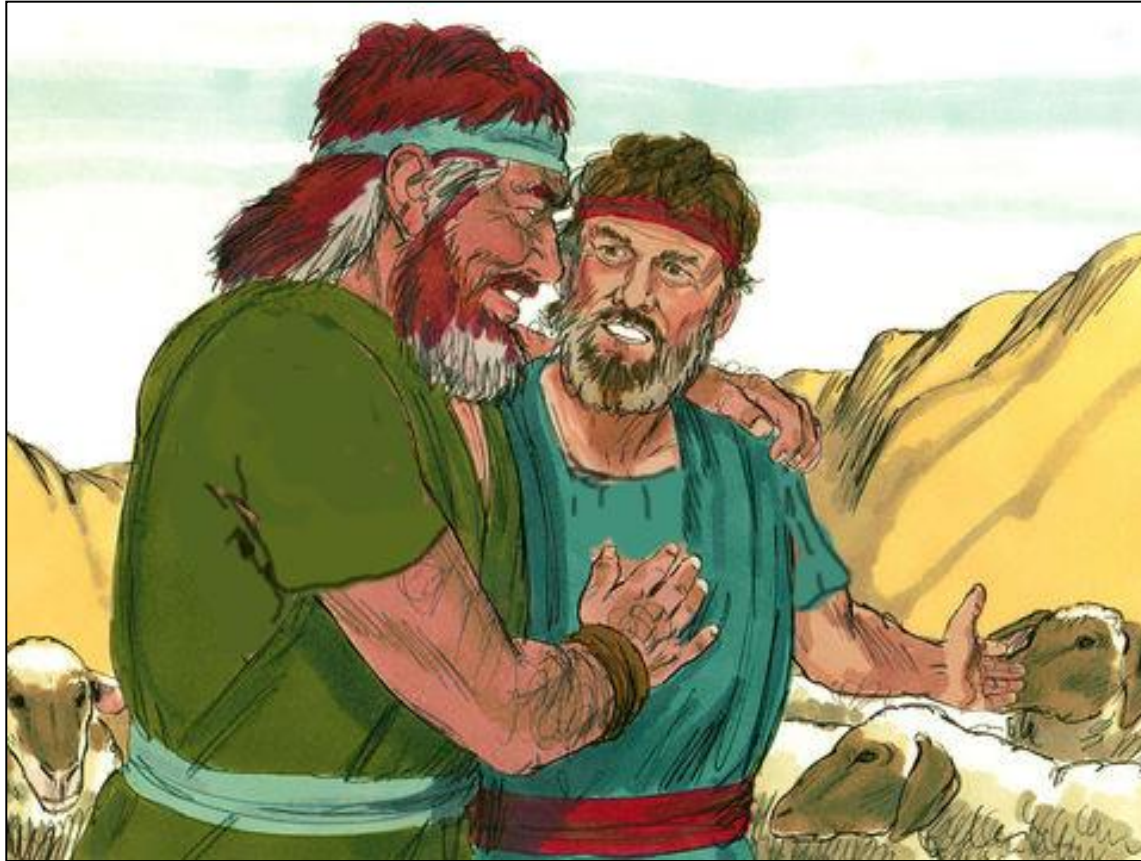


An eastern respectful greeting
Humbling yourself – it won't hurt !

But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept. v4

An unexpected turn of events because God went in front

Weeping for joy/ relief - displays of affection



Esau's kindness – Do you keep grudges ?

Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. "Who are these with you?" he asked. Jacob answered, "They are the children God has graciously given your servant." Then the maidservants and their children approached and bowed down. Next, Leah and her children came and bowed down. Last of all came Joseph and Rachel, and they too bowed down. v5-7



Respectful greetings

He acknowledges them as God's gifts

Do you appreciate your children ?

Esau asked, "What do you mean by all these droves I met?"
"To find favour in your eyes, my lord," he said. But Esau said, "I
already have plenty, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself."

v8-9



He already knew but he meant there was no need for this.

Done well ?

Satisfied ?

Esau's "blessing" Genesis 27:39-40

"No, please!" said Jacob. "If I have found favour in your eyes, accept this gift from me. For to see your face is like seeing the face of God, now that you have received me favourably. v10

“Please – it shows you have accepted me.
I see God’s hand in this kindness.”



Please accept the present that was brought to you, for God has been gracious to me and I have all I need." And because Jacob insisted, Esau accepted it. v11

I've been blessed – it is no hardship. Please accept.



Did Esau appreciate the gift ?

Then Esau said, "Let us be on our way; I'll accompany you." v12

A landscape photograph showing a wide, flat valley in the foreground, possibly a plain or a large field. In the middle ground, there are several dark, forested mountains. In the background, there are higher, more rugged mountains with some snow or light-colored patches. The sky is a pale blue. The overall scene is a vast, open natural setting.

Come and let's go visit / stay at my place

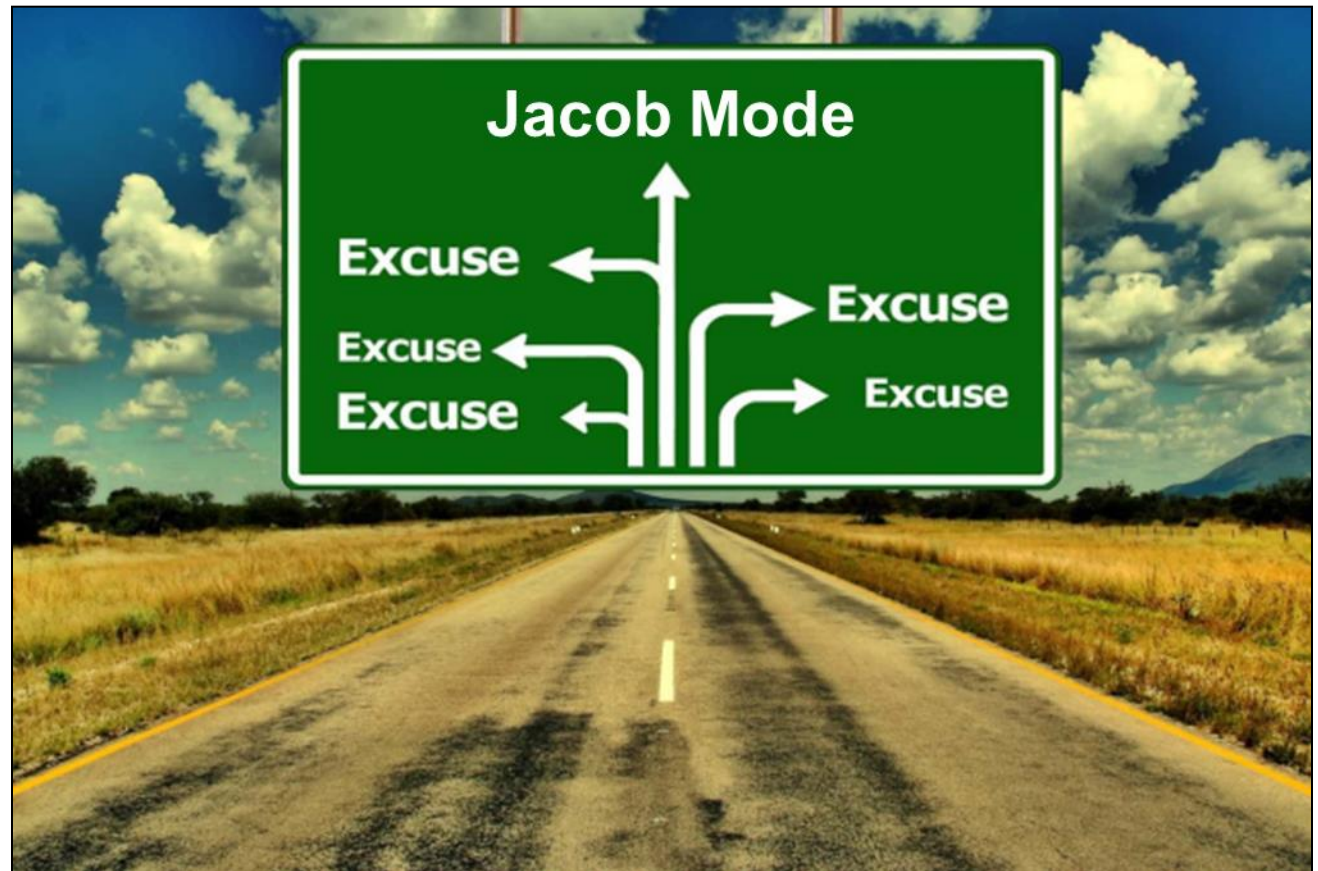
Hospitality !

But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are tender and that I must care for the ewes and cows that are nursing their young. If they are driven hard just one day, all the animals will die. So let my lord go on ahead of his servant, while I move along slowly at the pace of the droves before me and that of the children, **until I come to my lord in Seir.**" v13-14

He doesn't want to go.

Can't he tell him the truth ?

Danger of influences in other society



Esau said, "Then let me leave some of my men with you." v15

A generous offer of protection on the way

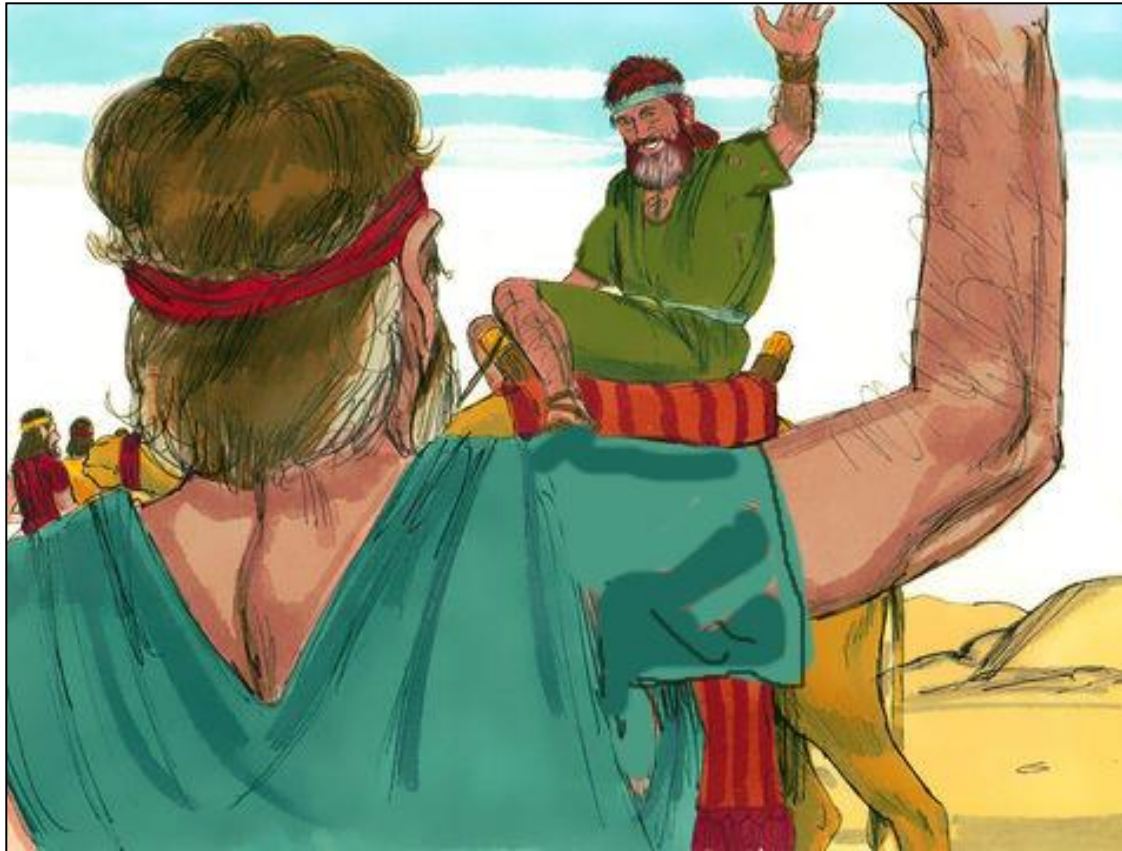


"But why do that?" Jacob asked. "Just let me find favour in the eyes of my lord."
v15

Oh no! Do I have to dig deeper ?



So that day Esau started on his way back to Seir.
Jacob, **however**, went to Succoth, v16

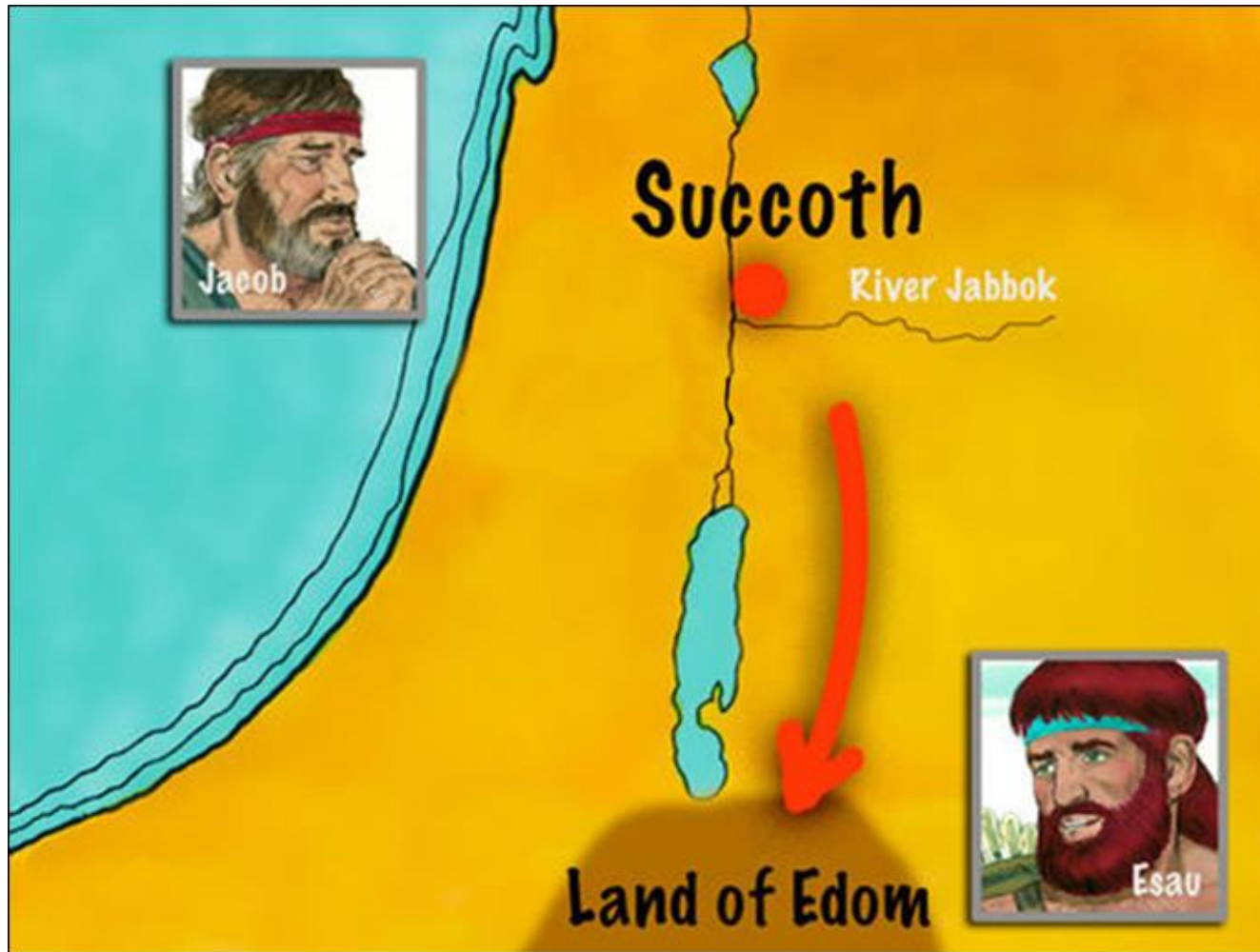


Jacob mode

Why not tell him straight ?

He could have said ... “There’s better pasture over there.”
“God told me to go back home.”

Jacob, however, went to Succoth, where he built a place for himself and made shelters for his livestock. That is why the place is called Succoth. v17

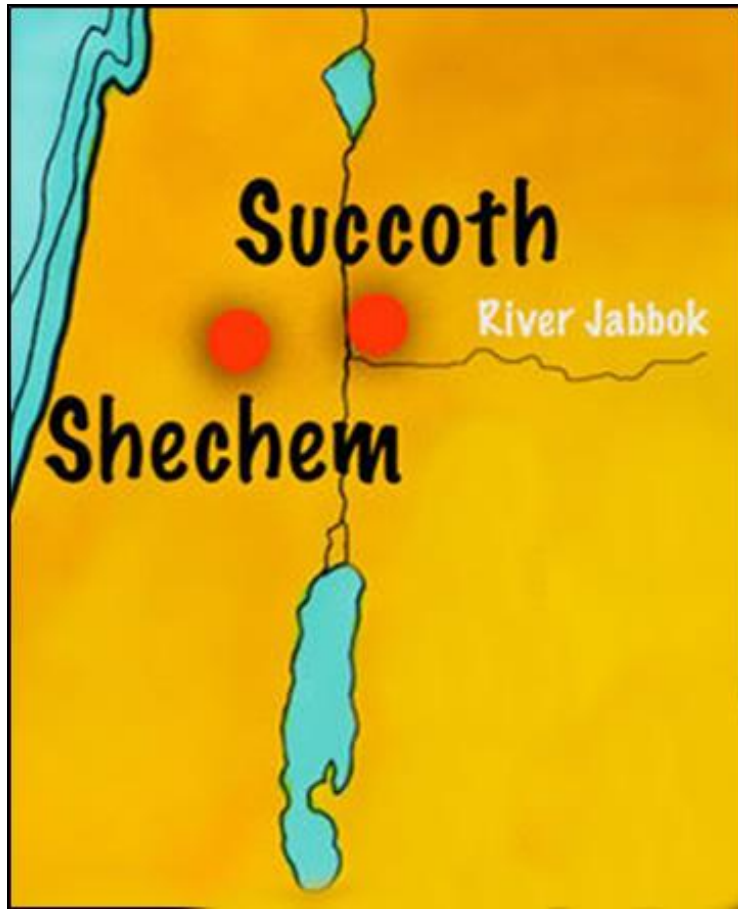


Tents- “temporary”, better site for flocks and family

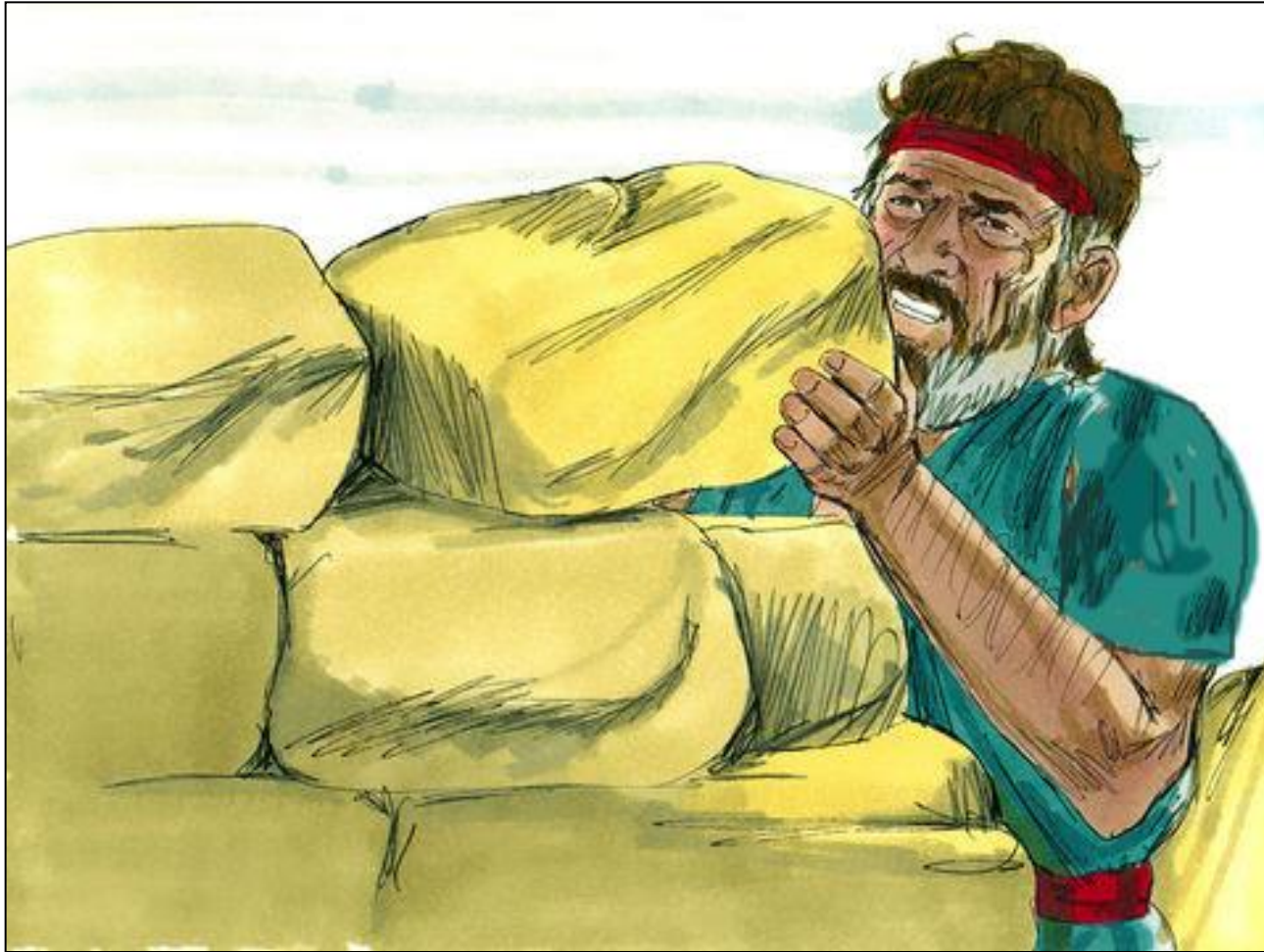
After Jacob came from Paddan Aram, he arrived safely at the city of Shechem in Canaan and camped within sight of the city. For a hundred pieces of silver, he bought from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, the plot of ground where he pitched his tent.

Shechem is know as Nablus today.

v18-19

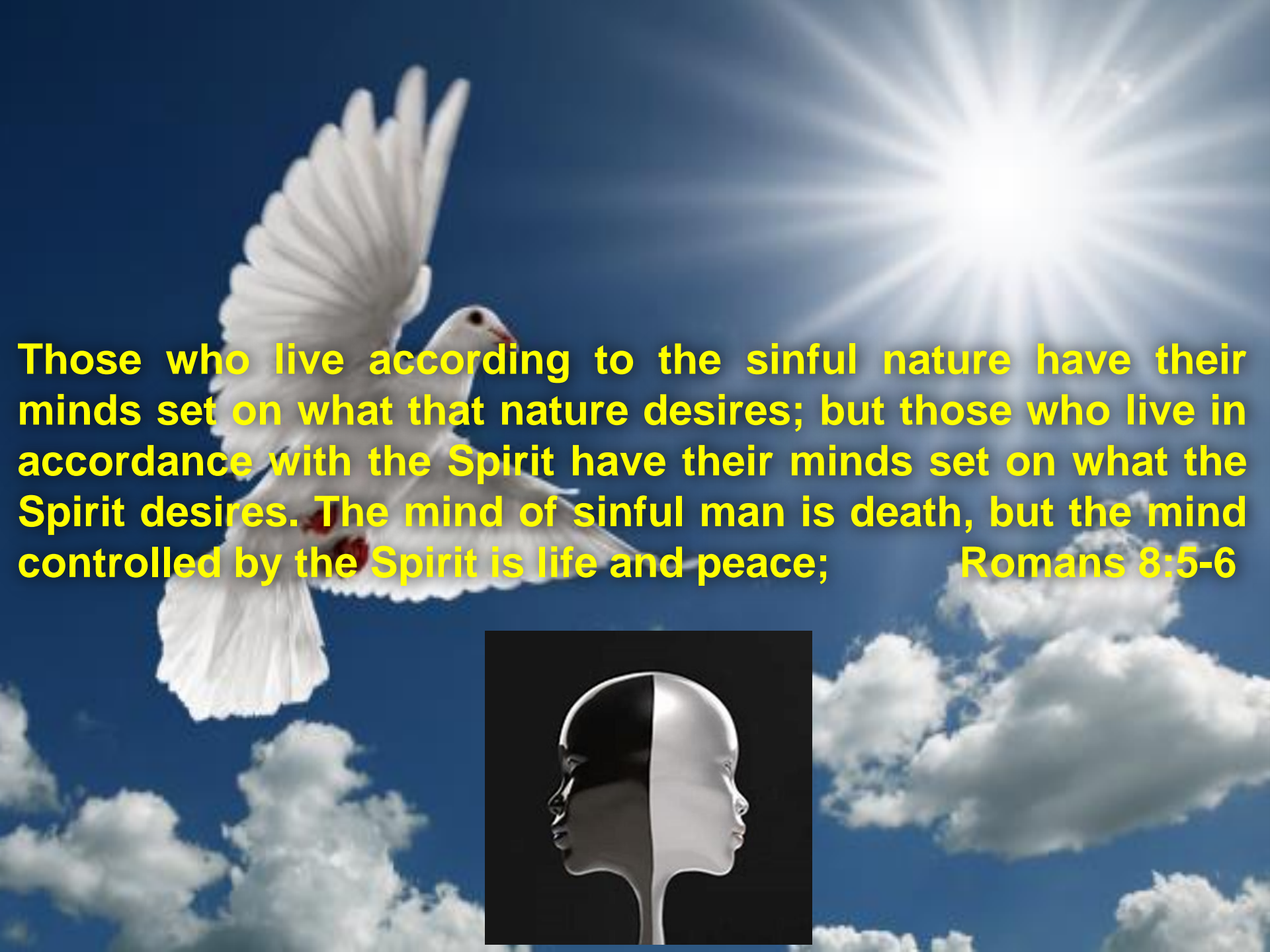


Buy your own land ?
Live peaceably near others



God, the God of Israel, or Great is the God of Israel

Worship – make it known who you belong to.

A white dove is shown in flight against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. In the upper right corner, a bright sun with prominent rays is visible. The overall scene is bright and clear.

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; Romans 8:5-6

