

A General Timeline of Jacob's Life

The Early Years:

- Twin son of Issac and Rebekah, born grabbing Esau's heel. (Gen. 25:19-26)
- Manipulated Esau to gain Esau's birthright. The brothers are approx. 40 years old. (Gen. 25:27-34)
- Deceived his father Issac, taking by deception the blessing God had already promised. (Gen.27)
- Flees Esau's wrath. At his parent's bidding, Jacob flees to Haran—his mother's home. On the way, Jacob encounters God at Luz, which he renames Bethel. Jacob is in his 70's. (Gen. 28)

In Haran:

- Lives with his mother's brother Laban.
- Works 7 years to marry Rachel but gets Leah. Also marries Rachel but must work another 7 years. (Gen 29).
- Eleven sons and one daughter are born to Jacob in Haran through his two wives and his wives' two servants. (Gen 29-30)
- Jacob works another 6 years, totaling 20 years of working for deceitful Uncle Laban.
- God tells Jacob to leave Haran and return to his father's home, Hebron. Jacob is in his 90's (Gen. 31-32)

The Journey Home:

- Jacob wrestles with God (Gen 32:24-32)
- Jacob encounters Esau (Gen 32-33)
- Jacob settles in Shechem—which is NOT his father's home. Serious consequences. (Gen 33:17-20 and Gen.34)
- God tells Jacob to go back to Bethel—the place he first heard from God. His return to Bethel is a major milestone for Jacob. (Gen35:1-15)
- Jacob leaves Bethel and returns to Hebron (his father's home). Rachel dies along the way. (Gen 35:16-29)

The Later Years:

- Joseph, Jacob's favorite son, is sold into slavery by his brothers. Eventually Joseph rises to power in Egypt. God uses it all to save Jacob's family (Gen 37-50)
- Jacob goes to Egypt. He is 130 years old. Reunited with Joseph. Jacob is a changed man. (Gen 46-47)
- Jacob blesses his family then dies in Egypt at 147 years old. His sons take his body back to Hebron and bury him in the same cave as Abraham, Sarah, Issac, Rebekah, and Leah. (Gen.48-50)