
DAILY READING

Genesis 34:1-12

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DINAH DEFILED

34 Leah's daughter Dinah, whom Leah bore to Jacob, went out to see some of the young women of the area. ² When Shechem—son of Hamor the Hivite, who was the region's chieftain—saw her, he took her and raped her. ³ He became infatuated with Jacob's daughter Dinah. He loved the young girl and spoke tenderly to her. ⁴ "Get me this girl as a wife," he told his father.

⁵ Jacob heard that Shechem had defiled his daughter Dinah, but since his sons were with his livestock in the field, he remained silent until they returned. ⁶ Meanwhile, Shechem's father Hamor came to speak with Jacob. ⁷ Jacob's sons returned from the field when they heard about the incident and were deeply grieved and very angry. For Shechem had committed an outrage against Israel by raping Jacob's daughter, and such a thing should not be done.

⁸ Hamor said to Jacob's sons, "My son Shechem has his heart set on your daughter. Please give her to him

as a wife. ⁹ Intermarry with us; give your daughters to us, and take our daughters for yourselves. ¹⁰ Live with us. The land is before you. Settle here, move about, and acquire property in it.”

¹¹ Then Shechem said to Dinah’s father and brothers, “Grant me this favor, and I’ll give you whatever you say. ¹² Demand of me a high compensation and gift; I’ll give you whatever you ask me. Just give the girl to be my wife!”