



“Gifts to Appease Righteous Wrath” 3/23/25 | Text: Genesis 32:13-21

I. Jacob's gift to appease Esau's wrath

A. Jacob selects 550 animals for Esau.

Genesis 32:13-15 - *So he lodged there that same night, and took what came to his hand as a present for Esau his brother: ¹⁴two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, ¹⁵thirty milk camels with their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten foals.*

B. Jacob separates the animals into different droves.

Genesis 32:16-19 - *Then he delivered them to the hand of his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, “Pass over before me, and put some distance between successive droves.” ¹⁷And he commanded the first one, saying, “When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, saying, ‘To whom do you belong, and where are you going? Whose are these in front of you?’ ¹⁸then you shall say, ‘They are your servant Jacob’s. It is a present sent to my lord Esau; and behold, he also is behind us.’” ¹⁹So he commanded the second, the third, and all who followed the droves, saying, “In this manner you shall speak to Esau when you find him;*

C. Jacob's plan to appease Esau.

Genesis 32:20-21 - *and also say, ‘Behold, your servant Jacob is behind us.’” For he said, “I will appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterward I will see his face; perhaps he will accept me.” ²¹So the present went on over before him, but he himself lodged that night in the camp.*

*Ex. 30:10; Lev. 5:6; Lev. 16:30

II. The doctrine of propitiation

Definition: “a sacrifice that bears God’s wrath to the end and in doing so changes God’s wrath toward us into favor.” (Wayne Grudem)

A. God is holy and just.

*Lev. 19:2; Ps. 99:3; Isa. 6:3; Rev. 3:7; Deut. 32:4; Isa. 30:18

B. We have sinned against a holy God and deserve His righteous wrath.

*Rom. 1:18-20; Rom. 3:10-12; Eph. 2:1-3; Isa. 64:6; Phil. 3:4-7

C. God provided a sacrificial system to cover our sins.

*Gen. 2:17; Lev. 16:13-15

D. God Himself provides the gift to appease His wrath.

*1 John 2:2; 1 John 4:10; Rom. 3:24-26

Next week's sermon text: Genesis 32:22-32

If you were to share a key insight from today's sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Application Questions: Are there any times in the past you have tried to appease someone's anger with a gift of some kind? What was your motivation for doing so? Was it a lack of faith on Jacob's part to make such elaborate plans to meet Esau? Explain. How does propitiation demonstrate God's love and justice? How does this sermon help you to LOVE God and others “More and More?”

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 390698 San Diego, CA 92149

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