

## *Dinah: The Massacre at Shechem*

### Genesis 28, 33-34

The Bible at times provides a painfully accurate account of families that go through crisis after crisis. The story of Dinah in Genesis 34 is one such account as we're told the sad events of Jacob's only daughter being violated in the most tragic of ways. That sin is compounded by the actions of her brothers. Jacob's response is hardly noble: "You have brought trouble on me." His only concern was that if the Canaanites heard about the slaughter of the Hivites, they would retaliate by attacking his family and wiping it out. To which the brothers reply, "Should he have treated our sister like a prostitute?" No one looks good in this sorry episode. But what were the causes of this ugly episode and why does God allow it to be recorded? This Sunday we will examine this tragic story. There are some powerful lessons for us all to learn.

I. INTRODUCTION: *"Small steps and decisions have profound and lasting impacts."*

II. EXPOSITION:

A. The Spoiling of Dinah Genesis 33:18-34:4

1. The Setting

2. The Sin of Shechem

B. The Settlement with Shechem Genesis 34:5-24

1. Report of the Sin

2. Request of Hamor and Shechem

3. Response of Jacob's Sons

4. Report to the People of Shechem

5. Response of the People

C. The Slaying of the Men of Shechem Genesis 34:25-31

1. The Murder of the Men

2. The Plundering of the People

3. The Response of Jacob

III. CONCLUSION AND LASTING LESSONS: