

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Genesis 28

Genesis twenty-eight finds Isaac sympathetic to Jacob's plight and warning him not to take a wife from the Canaanites. This was following in the footsteps of Abraham his father. Esau would do just the opposite because he was proud and bitter. This is not our judgment, but God's; see Hebrews twelve concerning Esau's heart. Isaac hearkened back to the name of God as revealed to his father earlier (see Genesis 17:1). God revealed Himself to Abraham as the "Almighty God" in most English translations. The Hebrew is transliterated (*letter for letter, from one language to another for pronunciation*) **EL Shaddai**. "EL" is the general name for God, for instance, ELI/Eli, means "My God" the "i" is the personal pronoun "I" so the two together mean, "My God." The Hebrew word "**SHAD**" is the word for a woman's breast from which comes sustenance. It speaks of a mother's milk or even more accurately, the "colostrum" the yellowish liquid that is present in the mother in the early hours of life and is filled with the factors that build the immune system and provides every ingredient to fully sustain the life of the child. Interestingly this word as found in scripture in this context has a "dot" in the bosom of the "D" or Daleth in Hebrew. That "Dot" is called a *Dagesh Forte*, which intensifies the meaning of the word. It is usually transliterated into English by the doubling of the letter and then the ending inflection of the noun in this case.

Therefore, it is written "EL Shaddai" instead of EL Shadai.

What God said to Abraham, Isaac must now pass on to his son who will need God's watch care and all he needs for the journey. Based on the root meaning of the word in Hebrew and contextually, this name of God, **EL SHADDAI** should be translated, the "**All-Sufficient God**" instead of "Almighty God" as God is not only the strong one who can do anything and can conquer any foe, but even more He is the one who can meet your every need, satisfy your greatest longing, meet you where you are and get you to where you need to be! Why? Because He is all you need to have life. You can be dead while you live, but you cannot have God controlling your living without having *life*! He is the "**All-Sufficient God.**"

Prayer and Action Steps

Before you read another word in this guide, stop, bow your head and your heart, and thank God that He can meet your every need. Cry out to God and ask for Him to show you that He is the "All-Sufficient God" and to meet you where you are right now and to, by His grace, take you to where you need to be in your spirit, soul, and body. Ask Him to correct any wrong way of thinking and any selfishness and mistrust and to cleanse you. He will meet you when you are ready. Are you ready?

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
