

Jacob's Success Secret Revealed!

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The Bible reveals a success secret and if you apply its principles it will make you successful in everything that you do. This is a great foundation for success; even the apostles used Jacob's success secret to increase the flock of God!

Jacob was living with his father in law in Syria and it was there that he started accumulating his possessions, wives and children. But he was not quite free from the grip of his father in law. Every time he tried to break free Laban would pull him back in. So Jacob applied a success secret that made him free from Laban and made him *financially* independent!

In Genesis 30, Jacob finally says to Laban, "...Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country.

"Give *me* my wives and my children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go: for thou knowest my service which I have done thee." (vv.25-26). It was time for Jacob to go-Laban tried to trick Jacob again asking what kind of "wages" should he give him; trying to devise a scheme to keep him because he knew, "that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake." (v.27) But Jacob said to Laban, "and now when shall I provide for mine own house also?" (v.30). Jacob wanted to make his own wealth-provide for his own family and finally be free of Laban.

Again Laban says, "What shall I give thee?" (v.31). However Jacob this time responded, "*Thou shalt not give me any thing*: if thou wilt do this thing for me, I will again feed *and* keep thy flock:" He knew that if he accepted, then he would be under Laban once again, Jacob said, "And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times;" (Gen 31:7). Jacob wanted nothing! Instead Jacob created a way to make his own wealth, his own economy, and this success secret works! The Apostles even used it, and one can use it even today.

Jacob Develops his own Wealth

Now Jacob went through the flock of Laban which Jacob took care of and said, "I will pass through all thy flock to day, removing from thence all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats: and *of such* shall be my hire [Heb. sâkâr

“*compensation*” Strong’s 7939].” (Gen 30:32). This was Jacob’s compensation for all the work he had done for Laban-for all the years he spent with him.

So what does Laban do? He, “... removed that day the he goats that were ringstraked and spotted, and all the she goats that were speckled and spotted, *and* every one that had *some* white in it, and all the brown among the sheep, and gave *them* into the hand of his sons.” (v.35).

Here now Jacob creates his own wealth-a success secret that the Bible reveals.

The first is *vision*. Jacob wanted *specific* types in Laban’s flocks, “speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats.” So his vision for wealth was specific!

Second Jacob creates an *environment* to produce wealth. Notice what Jacob does? It says, “And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chesnut tree; and pilled white strakes in them, *and made the white appear which was in the rods*.

“And he set the rods which he had pilled ***before the flocks*** in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink.

“And the flocks ***conceived before the rods***, and brought forth cattle ringstraked, speckled, and spotted.

“And Jacob did separate the lambs, ***and set the faces of the flocks toward the ringstraked***, and all the brown in the flock of Laban; and he put his own flocks by themselves, and put them not unto Laban’s cattle.” (30:37-40). Notice Jacob set the faces of the flocks towards the exposed part of the rods to create an environment for breeding.

It is interesting that throughout the years this method of breeding has come under attack and touted as being an example of folklore, superstition, and primitive veterinary understanding. But now, “Research into botanical and herbal remedies over the past few decades has exonerated the methodologies which Jacob used with Laban’s flocks. Indeed, some of the same botanical specimens Jacob utilized are now being used to supplement livestock feed and are used as veterinary treatments on several diseases and conditions.” (Article; Jacob’s Odd “Breeding Program” of Genesis 30 by Troy Lacey).

God came to Jacob in a dream [see Genesis 31:1-12], and told him what to do, “...and then God directed the birth of the sheep and goats to produce whatever

Laban had forced Jacob to take out of the flocks. We are not told in Scripture if God miraculously changed the genetic makeup of the flocks or whether he just divinely guided those with the genetic information for stripes, spots and/or mottling to out compete the other animals. *But either way, this was providentially directed.*” (ibid, emphasis added). God showed Jacob a *spiritual law* for success!

This source states of the *spiritual laws* that work around us, “The *finger of God works in nature myriads of ways unknown to us;...and acknowledge that nature is the instrument by which he chooses to work*, and that he performs all things according to the counsel of his own will, which is always infinitely wise and infinitely good.” (Clarke’s Commentary).

Again, “That Jacob believed in the efficacy of the artifice he adopted is apparent; but the multiplication of Parti-colored animals *it will be safer to ascribe to Divine blessing than to human craft.*” (Pulpit Commentary) There was a spiritual Divine law *behind this*. Jacob made the flock keep their eyes in the peeled sticks and miraculously the flock became strong speckled and spotted. Jacob *created the environment* for the selective breeding and *immersed* the flocks in that environment.

The third secret is *focus on what works*. Jacob focused on what worked when he was creating his wealth. It says, “And it came to pass, whensoever the stronger cattle did conceive, that Jacob laid the rods before the eyes of the cattle in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods.

“But when the cattle were feeble, he put *them* not in: so the feebler were Laban’s, and the stronger Jacob’s.” (Gen 30:41-42). Jacob focused on what worked and put *most* of his attention on what worked not on what *didn’t* work. He did pay *some* of his attention in Laban’s flock; but Jacob was working for *his* wealth at this point, so most of his attention was on his *own* wealth.

This is a powerful lesson on *focus* and the 80-20 principle.

Applying it to today’s world many in business have strong sheep and weak sheep. Your strong sheep are the 20% of your activities that produce 80% of your results. It’s the one client that gives you most of your business. Or the one marketing strategy that brings in the most leads. It’s the one product that generates most of your profit.

The weak sheep are the 80% of your activities that produce only 20% of your results. The timewasting tasks, the complaining clients, the ineffective marketing efforts.

To apply Jacob's wealth secret for success, you must be ruthless in identifying and focusing on your *strongest* sheep. You must direct your energy, your time, and your capital to the things that are *already* working, the things that have the highest potential for multiplication.

When you water the strongest parts of your business or your career, they will mate with your vision and produce massive results.

Most people do the *opposite*. They spend all their time trying to fix the weak parts of their business. They pour energy into complaining clients. They keep investing in marketing that doesn't work. They are *watering the weak sheep* and they wonder why they are not getting strong results.

The Apostles Applied it.

The Apostles went through the same thing- they applied Jacob's method and it worked!

In Acts the 6th chapter a problem developed with the "flock" of God which is what the church was called (see Acts 20:28-29).

The church of God had a strong start at Pentecost, "And the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:41). 3000 people converted and followed Christ. The preaching and teaching the Gospel was the *strong part* of the work of God and "to feed the church of God" (Acts 20:28).

So much so, it says, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

"Praising God, and having favour with all the people. *And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*" (Acts 2:46-47). The flock was multiplying just like Jacob's flocks, "And the man [Jacob] *increased exceedingly*, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses." (Gen 30:43).

But the *weak part* of the flock needed attention. It says that, “And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.” (Acts 6:1). The weak and feeble needed attention; but the Apostles did *not* give it *all* of their attention.

Again, the 80-20 principle was applied just like Jacob.

The Apostle’s said, “Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples *unto them*, and said, ***It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.***

“Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, *whom we may appoint over this business.*

“But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.” (Acts 6:2-4). The Apostles main focus was on preaching and teaching which was the strong part of the work of God and needed their full attention.

So they appointed deacons (Acts 6:5) to take care of the widows and those that needed care. The Apostles applied the success secret of Jacob, and it worked. It then says, “And the *word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied* in Jerusalem *greatly*; and a great company of the priests *were obedient to the faith.*” (Acts 6:7). They knew that this was a spiritual law for success-Jacob used it and so did the Apostles!

You can Too!

This success secret anyone can apply to their business, career, or anything else for that matter and become successful. The steps again are:

1. Set up your speckled sheep-**Vision**.
2. Setup your stripped branches-**Environment**
3. Water the strongest of the flock-**Focus on what works**

The Breakdown:

Vision: Jacob’s goal was incredibly specific. It wasn’t “I want some sheep.” It was “I want the speckled, spotted, and dark colored ones.” He had a crystal clear vision of the exact outcome he desired. This is the first and most crucial step in creating wealth and success. He had a crystal clear vision of what he desired. Do not make

the mistake of being *vague* with your vision-be specific with your goal! What is your speckled sheep?

Environment: This is the most powerful part of the success secret. Jacob did not just *hope* for speckled sheep he created an *environment* that would produce them. He placed the striped branches in the *direct line of sight* of the flock at the moment of conception. He understood that *what you see you create*. What you focus on will come into being.

“Jacob’s breeding program relied on *getting the flocks to look at the peeled branches (sticks)*...Jacob put the peeled sticks in the watering trough and that the flocks bred right near those troughs....*what is probably being alluded to is the fact that as the females drank water from the troughs, the males would come up behind them to mate*. The lambs were likely placed in front of the watering troughs to keep the female *animals focused in front of them* while the males came up from behind and bred with them.” (Article; Jacob’s Odd “Breeding Program” of Genesis 30 by Troy Lacey, emphasis added). Jacob created an environment for breeding and kept the animals *focused* on it.

The stripped branches are the *visual and environmental cues* that you intentionally place in your life to keep your vision constantly in *front of you*. You must create an environment that is pregnant with the reality you wish to create.

You must surround yourself with constant unavoidable *reminders of your vision*. These reminders act like the stripped branches. They impress the image of your desired outcome onto your subconscious mind; especially at moments of high emotional energy like Jacob’s flock at the moment of conception.

Your subconscious mind then begins to work day and night to align your actions, your thoughts, and your opportunities with that image.

Do not make the mistake of having weak branches. Do *not* be in an environment of what you want *once in a while*. Or look at your vision board of what you want *once in a while*. It must in your face and your focus *always*!

Focus on what works: Jacob watered the strongest of the flock. This is a subtle but critical detail in the story. The Bible says that Jacob would only place the stripped branches in front of the strong and vigorous animals. He would not place them in front of the weak ones. What does this mean? Jacob focused his energy and his resources on what was working. He didn’t spend all his time on the weak

and feeble sheep that were unlikely to produce strong offspring. This is a powerful lesson in focus and the 80-20 principle. Your strong sheep are the 20% of your activities that produce 80% of your results.

Your weak sheep are the 80% of your activities that produce only 20% of your results.

When you *water the strongest parts of your business* or your career, they will mate with your vision and produce massive results. Do *not* make the mistake of doing the opposite!

So do an 80-20 analysis of your financial life. Where does the majority of your income come from? What activities produce the greatest results? Identify your strongest sheep, and how can you double down on them? How can you give them more of your focus, more of your energy, more of your resources?

This focused effort is what turns a vision into a fortune.

Applying this spiritual law-this success secret will give results. It worked for Jacob, the church of God and it will work to whoever applies it-this is a biblical success *spiritual* law!