1. (v.1) Past issues of anger may have future consequences.
2. (v.2-3) Issues of spiritual purity always extend to those closest to us who have the most earthly influence over us.
3. (v.4-5) One of the consequences of past issues in our life may be a reputation that has an adverse effect on others.
4. (v.6-15) Another consequence may be personal doubt that past issues have somehow nullified God’s promises.
5. (v.16-21) There may always be forgiveness, but that does not always erase subsequent consequences.

Some of the ways God redeemed bad situations in this chapter and turned them into something of value:

- Just like in Abraham’s case, God used an incident to create a healthy fear in the people around him who might be jealous or envious of his prosperity.

- God used the previous incidents of chapter 34 to cause Jacob to finally do something about the idolatry in his midst.

- God used the flight to Bethel to reaffirm the Abrahamic Covenant and to reinforce Jacob’s name change.