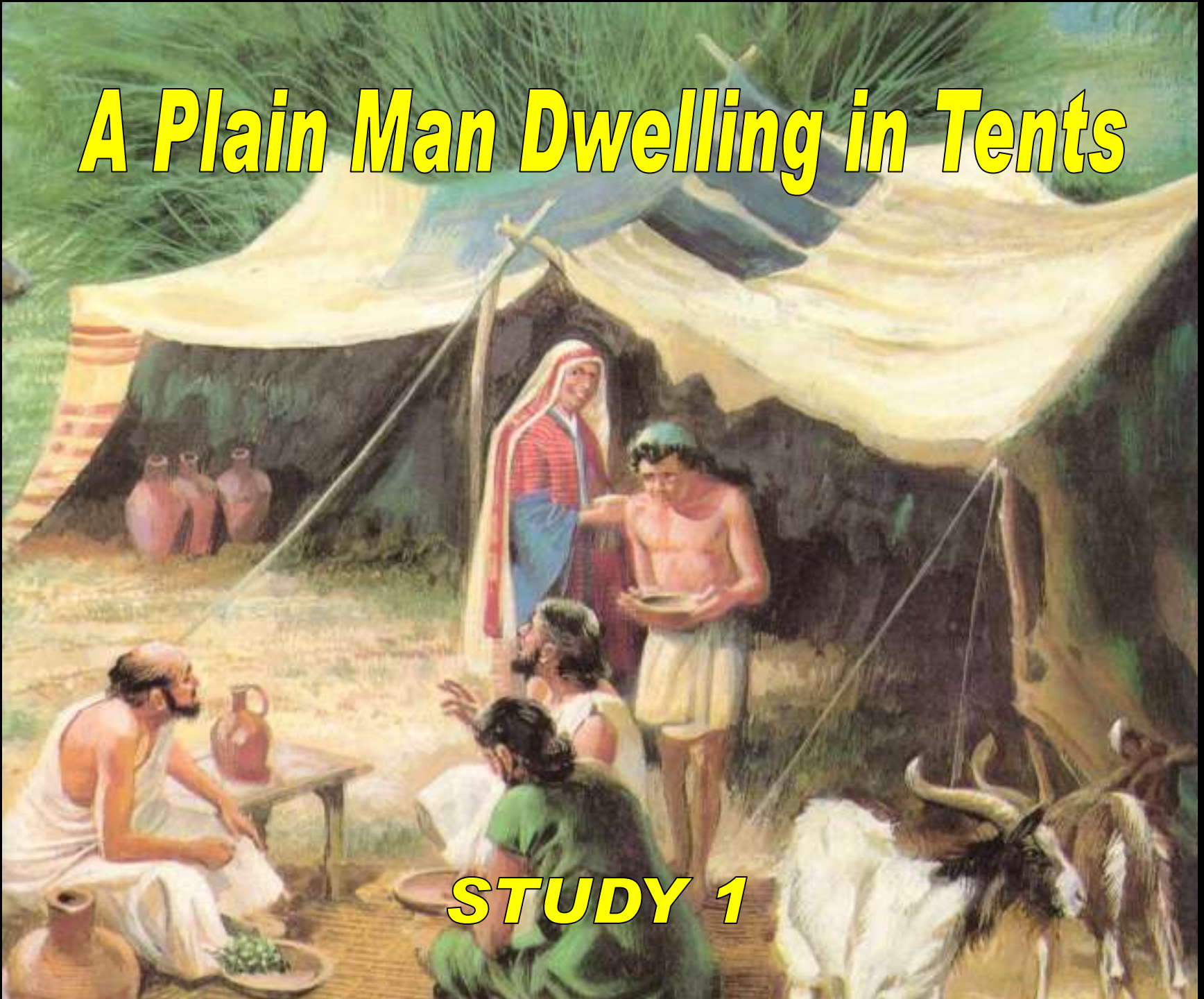


# ***A Plain Man Dwelling in Tents***



***STUDY 1***

## **Romans 11:26**

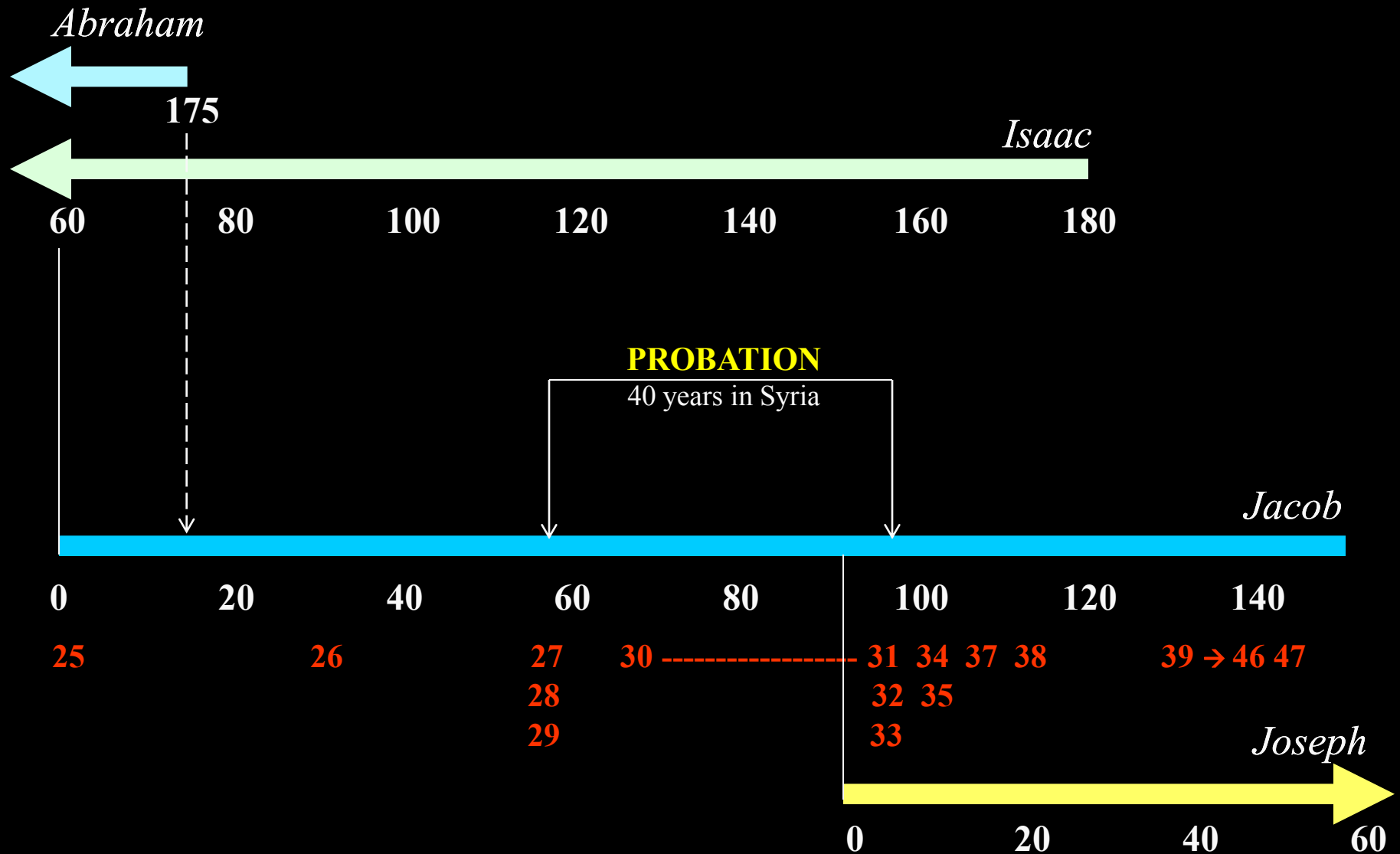
And so all **Israel** shall be saved: as it is written, “There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from **Jacob**”

## **Hosea 12 : 3-4 (Rotherham)**

3 In the womb, took he his brother by the heel; and, in his manly vigour, strove he with God:

4 Yea he strove against a Messenger, and prevailed, he wept, and made supplication unto him,—At Bethel, he found him, and, there, he spake with us;

# Timeline of Jacob's Life



# **The “evil” of Jacob’s life**

- Grew up in a divided home
- Lived with murderous hatred of brother
- Injustice of a ruthless employer
- Deceived over matter of his wife
- 2 wives → division, tension, trouble
- Anguish of Rachel’s barrenness
- Suffered the loss of Joseph
- Daughter left Truth → world
- Older sons rebellious

## **Esau – Man of the Flesh**

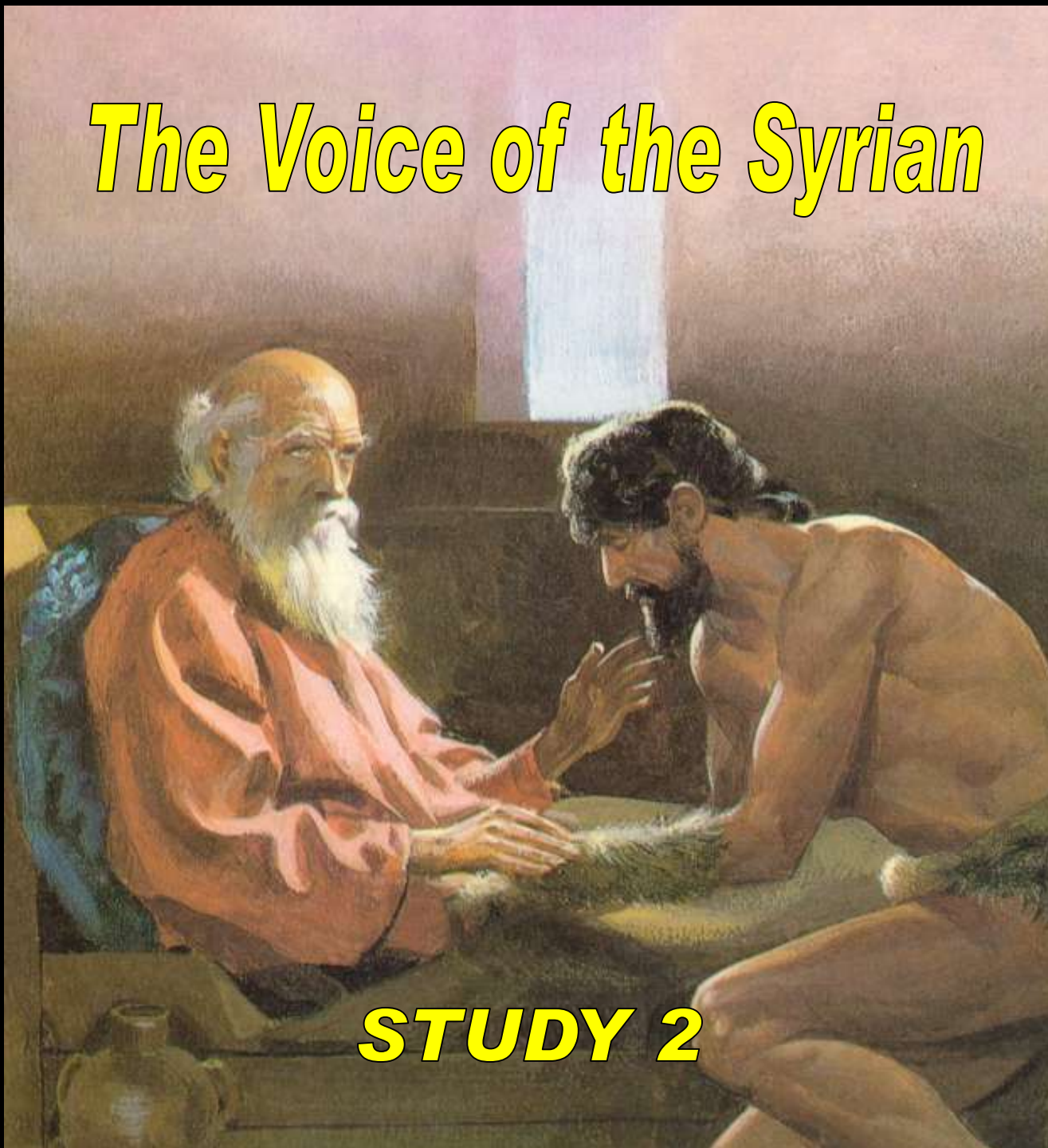
- Esau = “to make” → fully formed, no change
- Red hair all over = child of flesh
- Called “Edom” = red
- Man of the field, cunning hunter
- City builder
- Profane (=irreligious) – despised birthright
- Unaware of Providence
- Married Hittite women
- Hated of God – “Esau have I hated”

# Jacob – Man of the Spirit

- **Jacob** = Supplanter →  
    **Israel** = Prince with God
- Upright, Godly man
- Tent-dweller → pilgrim, sojourner
- Loved the Promises
- Aware of Providence
- Married bride “close to Truth”
- Loved of God – “Jacob have I loved”



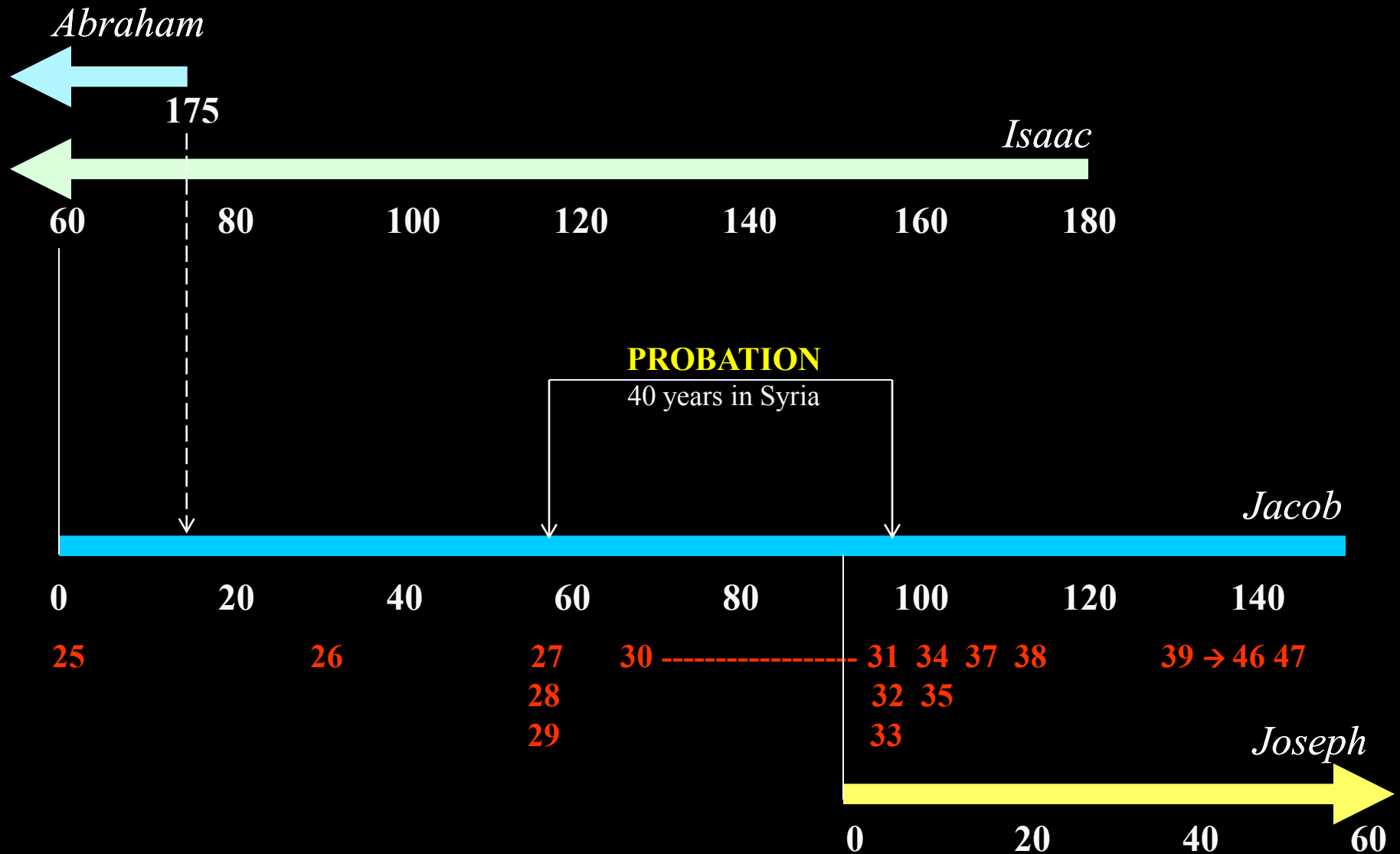
# *The Voice of the Syrian*



**STUDY 2**



# Timeline of Jacob's Life



# **Rebekah**

## **Woman of Initiative, Purpose & Action**

- “she hastened ... gave him drink” 24:18
- “she hastened ... drew for his camels” 24:20
- “she ran ... told her mother’s house” 24:28
- She said, “I will go” (to be Isaac’s wife) 24:58
- Obey my voice : “Go... fetch two kids ...” 27:9
- Obey my voice : “Arise and flee...” 27:43

# Rebekah

## Woman of Faith

- “Followed” Abraham’s servant 24:61
- “Enquired of Yahweh” 25:22
- Believed the promise of angel 25:23
- Loved Jacob (godly man) 25:28
- Grieved by Esau’s marriages 26:35
- Motivated by Divine promise 27:15, 42
- Buried with Isaac in Macpelah 49:31



# **The Voice of the Syrian**

- Compelling, persuasive, plausible
- Persistent, insistent – “*Obey my voice*”!
- Appeals to the flesh
- Leaves God out of the situation
- Fights with the conscience
- Rationalises any situation or argument
- Deceives

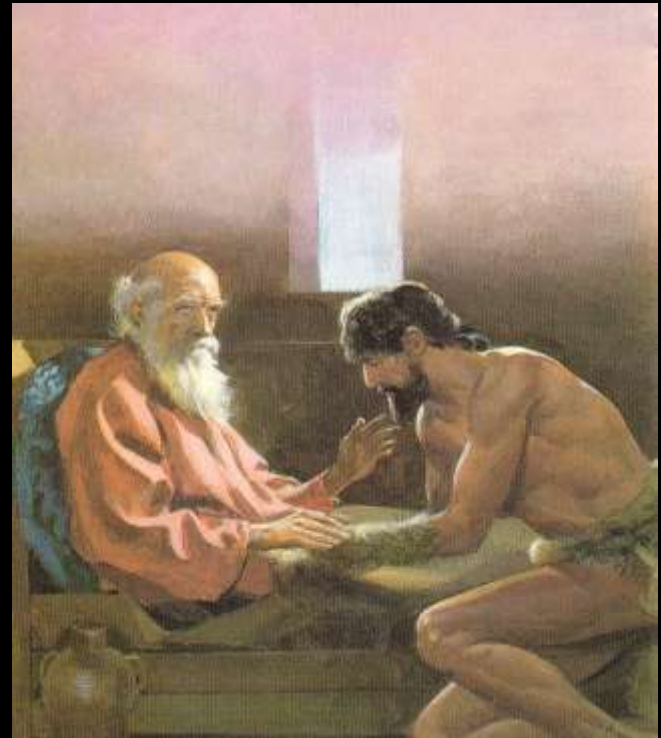
# The Voice of the Syrian RETURNS

- Through Laban
  - *Deception over wives*
  - *Deception over cattle*
  - *Deception over wages*
- Through his wives
  - *Pressure for his affection*
  - *Deception of Rachel*
- Through his sons
  - *Simeon & Levi*
  - *All sons → “death” of Joseph*



# **The Ways of Providence**

“God may be guiding our steps, not only in the midst of, but by the very means of, circumstances that in themselves appear evil.”



**Bro Robert Roberts**  
*The Ways of Providence, p. 42*