

## Jacob and the wife-sister stories

### ELEMENTS IN COMMON (SPOELSTRA, 2021):

1. Emigration to another land catalyzed by an existential crisis
2. The new locale offers safety to the protagonist
3. In the new locale, there is deception about a patriarch's wife
4. The patriarch leaves with increased wealth
5. There is a divine confrontation with the potentate
6. God confronts Abimelech and Laban via dream
7. Covenant to end the dispute
8. The cry, "What have you done?"

### INVERSIONS OF THE PATTERN

1. Famine vs. promise of agricultural prosperity
2. Journey southward (Egypt, Gerar) vs. northward (Haran)
3. Lodging with foreigners vs. kin
4. Rachel's beauty seen by Jacob; Sarah's/Rebekah's beauty seen by the ruler
5. Full sisters of each other vs. half-sister of Abraham
6. Patriarchs deceive ruler vs. "ruler" deceiving patriarch
7. Patriarchs given wealth vs. Jacob working for wealth
8. Wife given back vs. second wife given
9. Public departure vs. stealthy departure