

Parshas Vayishlach – For the Love of Money:

1. **Bereishis 32, 24-25:** And he took them, and brought them across the stream, and he brought across that which was his. And Yaakov was left alone and a man wrestled with him until the break of dawn.
2. **Rashi:** He had forgotten some small jars and returned for them.
3. **Talmud Chullin 91:** From here we learn that, for Tzaddikim, their money is more beloved to them than their own bodies. Why? Because they do not stretch their hands out in theft.
4. **Bereishis 33, 5-18:** He raised his eyes and saw the women and children, and he asked, "Who are these to you?" He answered, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant."....And he said, "Travel on and let us go – I will proceed alongside you."But he said to him, "My lord knows that the children are tender....Then Eisav said, "Let me assign to you some of my people who are with me." And he said, "To what purpose? Let me just have favor in my lord's eyes!" So Eisav started back that way on his way to Seir, but Yaakov journeyed to Sukkos...Jacob arrived intact ...
5. **Tana D'vei Eliyahu:** When Yaakov and Eisav were yet in their mother's womb, Yaakov said to Eisav, "Eisav, my brother! We are two brothers and there are two worlds in front of us - This World and the World-to-Come. This World has in it eating and drinking, business, marriage and raising children, while the World-to- Come has none of these. If you would like, you take This World, and I will take the World-to-Come. Eisav agreed..... However, when Yaakov returned from Lavan's house and Eisav saw that Yaakov had wives and children and slaves, animals, gold and silver, Eisav said to Yaakov, "Did you not say that I would take This World? Why do you have so much of This World - wives, children, money, and slaves?" Yaakov answered him, "This is the small amount that Hashem gave me to use in This World as needed."At that moment Eisav was able to understand, and he said, "If this is This World, which Yaakov has no portion in – and Hashem gave him this – the World to Come, which is his portion, all the more so!" At that moment, Eisav said to Yaakov, "Yaakov, my brother, come let us make a partnership, you take half of this world and the world to come, and I will also take half of both".... And Yaakov said to Eisav, "My master knows that the children are tender and will not be able to withstand the suffering of your children....
6. **Bereishis 25,22:** The children agitated within her.
7. **Rashi:** They were agitating with each other; fighting over the inheritance of both worlds