

Pastor's Bible Study
Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Isaac/Jacob

Chapter 24 to Chapter 36

Review

Literary Period Covered: roughly 2166 B.C.E. to 1805 B.C.E.

Review and Introduction

The plan of salvation is moving forward through Isaac.

Abraham and Isaac back in Beersheba. His mother Sarah died at the age of 127 years of age. Isaac needs a wife for the plan to continue.

Lecture Segment

Oath -In our culture, taking an oath usually involves raising the right hand or placing a hand over the heart or on a Bible. In ancient Hebrew culture, we find something a little different. Genesis 24:9 describes an odd practice that involved Abraham's servant swearing to obey his master's command to find a wife for Isaac: "So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning this matter." So, when a patriarch asked his servant to place a hand under his right thigh, it was a sacred oath to abide by what the patriarch was going to request.

Well -The woman of the community would gather in the evening to draw water for their households and for a time of fellowship, Wells were typically dug into the ground and could be 50 or more feet deep. Rebekah would carry the pitcher down to fill and then bring it back up.

Abrahams Clan – How do we know who is the good match. In this time marriages were arranged by parents. To find a wife from one's kin was to find a bride whose background, values and family was known.

After Chapter 22 we will never read about Isaac speaking to his father Abraham again. He will be 40 years old when his father's servant is sent to find him a wife.

Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah

- Rebekah is barren and the Lord enables her to give birth to twins
- Esau means Hairy – "body was like a hairy garment"
- Jacob – Deceiver – "his hand grasping Esau's heel", he was smooth and was deceptive. "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing."

The story focuses on Esau's trading of his birthright to Jacob and the conflict that ensued between their descendant nations. Esau's trading of his Godly inheritance for earthly lust, Jacob's deception of their aged and blind father, Isaac, in order to receive Esau's birthright/blessing from Isaac.

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Why did God favor Jacob over Esau since Jacob blatantly deceived Isaac?

Was Jacob wrong to trick Esau into compromising his birthright?

Why wasn't Jacob punished by God after he stole Esau's blessing?

Why did God bless Jacob in the bible when Jacob was a liar and a deceiver?

In the New Testament, Esau's decision to sell his birthright is utilized as an illustration of ungodliness—a "godless" person who will put worldly attractions over spiritual blessings (Hebrews 12:15-17). By his instructive example, Esau warns us to hold firm to what is truly valuable, even if it means rebuking the desires of the flesh. The account of Jacob and Esau represents God's calling and election. God chose the younger Jacob to carry on the Abrahamic Covenant, while Esau was providentially excluded from the Messianic lineage (Romans 9:11-14).

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Scripture and Study

Read: Chapters 37:1 to Chapter 50:26 we read the story of Jacob/Joseph

Encounter the Word

As you read reflect on what you have learned so far?

God has chosen imperfect people to carry forth His Plan for Salvation. What does that tell us about God? And about why God wants a relationship with us?

The Story of Joseph and his Brothers, is of the story of Jacob's favorite son, Joseph. Betrayed and sold into slavery by his brothers, he meets and overcomes adversity to become the prime minister of Egypt, closest official to the Pharaoh himself.

As you read what do you think the main point of the story?

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