



JACOB

INTO THE WORD

LESSON 8

- WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS LESSON:
 -
- BIBLICAL THEMES:
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- SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES:
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- FOR FURTHER STUDY:

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Introduction:

Into the Word:

Abraham's decedents through Isaac became the Israelites, a chosen nation.

- Isaac took to himself a wife whose name was Rebecca, who gave birth to twin sons, Esau and Jacob. Like Cain and Abel, they were very different from each other.

They had conflict since birth (Genesis 25: 22-26)

- Esau was the eldest; he had the birthright, with its material and spiritual benefits.
 - Superior rank in the family
 - Double portion of his father's property
 - Would become the spiritual leader (priest) of the household
 - Finally, the Messiah would come through his seed

Esau despises the birthright (Genesis 25:29-34)

- He failed this spiritual test. Esau sold out cheap (pot of beans)
- People are selling out for a temporary thrill (II Corinthians 4:18)
 - What is important to you?
- It is possible for God to hate (love less than). The difference was Jacob valued the spiritual over the carnal. Esau did not value the spiritual. (Romans 9:13-14; Hebrews 12:16-17)
- Esau marries outside of God's people (Genesis 26:35)

Jacob steals the blessing (Genesis 27: 11-13; 20-23, 26-29)

- Rebecca overhears and instructs her favorite son
- Isaac's five senses fail him
- Esau 's angry and vows to kill Jacob
- Jacob flees, sleeps with his head on a "rock" has a vision (Genesis 28:10-15, 16-22)
- When Jacob needed God the most, the Lord assured him He would be there. What a promise to those who value the spiritual over the carnal. He gives a similar promise to us. (John 14:16-17)

God blesses Jacob's life and he prospers

- For the next 20yrs. Jacob lived with his uncle and had 2 wives, Leah and Rachel. 11 sons and 1 daughter were born to him.

- Jacob worked 7 years for Rachel. He was tricked into marrying Leah (you reap what you sow). Afterwards, he also married Rachel and then worked another 7 years. (Genesis 29:10-11, 29:18, 27-28)
- Laban changed Jacob's wages many times, but God blessed Jacob in spite of Laban's tricks. (Trust in God not man)
- He was very prosperous and then the Lord told him to return to his home. ON the way, word came that his brother was coming with 400 men.
- Jacob sent his family on and stayed behind and an angel came to Jacob. Jacob took hold and would not let him go until he received a blessing (read chart-right). It's this kind of determination and persistence that God will honor.
 - His name was changed from Jacob (supplanter) to Israel (prince with God). A different man.
- The next day Jacob met Esau who fell on his neck and kissed him. Esau agreed to leave the land.

Jacob's desire and hunger for God brought God's favor

- Even though Jacob did not begin as a righteous person, God blessed Jacob for his desire and perseverance in seeking the things of God.
 - Hebrews 11:6 – Rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
 - Proverb 2:3-6 – Seek wisdom, get understanding
- Jesus didn't call men who were perfect or necessarily righteous, he calls men who desire God and are willing to be changed. Where the religious leaders (Pharisees and Sadducees) rejected Jesus, the sinners heard him gladly. Jacob is an example of someone who is willing to be transformed by his desire. Esau is someone who didn't value the things of God. Perhaps this is the reason God loved Jacob and hated Esau (Romans 9:13-14)