

²⁷ **So the boys** a boy was 17 in Genesis 37 so we shouldn't assume we are dealing with really young males here.

grew. And Esau was ^fa skillful hunter, Behind Nimrod, this is the 2nd one found in this book. **a man of the field; but Jacob was ^ga ⁶mild man, ^hdwelling in tents.** ²⁸ **And Isaac loved Esau because he ⁱate of his game, ^jbut Rebekah loved Jacob.**

²⁹ **Now Jacob cooked a stew; and Esau came in from the field, and he *was* weary.** ³⁰ **And Esau said to Jacob, “Please feed me with that same red *stew*, for I *am* weary.” Therefore his name was called ⁷Edom.** A play on Esau and their forefather who made a careless decision concerning food (Adam). **Edom** is equated with Esau and his descendants five times in Genesis 36.

³¹ **But Jacob said, “Sell me your birthright as of this day.”** It appears that this is different than the actual destiny from God (25:23), but maybe Isaac didn't know what God had told Rebekah? Esau sure does seem inattentive to the things that would lend themselves to running the family business—which is enormous at this time (26:27). By this time the tribe was perhaps thousands big since we have nearly 90 years since Abraham's trip to Egypt (Genesis 13) followed by his trip to Egypt (Genesis 20). A man that just loves sleeping under the stars may not be ready to be an executive.

³² **And Esau said, “Look, I *am* about to die;** I would love to think that his life was really at stake, but this seems hard to accept. If it were so, Jacob is much worse than we thought—feeding upon the desperate life of his brother.

so ^kwhat is this birthright to me?”

³³ **Then Jacob said, ⁸“Swear to me as of this day.”**

So he swore to him, and ^lsold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ **And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; a sort of salad-soup. After all, “stew” is added by the translators (verse 30). **then ^mhe ate and drank, arose, and went his way. Thus Esau ⁿdespised his birthright.**** He hated with what came to him by simple order of his birth, and **thus** tells us how he put this **despite** into action. Let us not forget that **Esau** was profane (Hebrews 12:16), and there is precious little pity to be had for him.

^f Gen. 27:3, 5

^g Job 1:1, 8

⁶ Lit. *complete*

^h Heb. 11:9

ⁱ Gen. 27:4, 19, 25, 31

^j Gen. 27:6–10

⁷ Lit. *Red*

^k Matt. 16:26; Mark 8:36, 37

⁸ Take an oath

^l Heb. 12:16

^m Eccl. 8:15; Is. 22:13; 1 Cor. 15:32

ⁿ Heb. 12:16, 17