

## EXPOSITION OF GENESIS

### Message #64

Genesis 26:34 - 27:46

**WHEN GOD'S WORD PROMISES SOMETHING IT IS TRUE AND GOD'S PEOPLE NEED NOT USE DISHONEST METHODS TO HELP MAKE THE PROMISES COME TRUE AND THOSE WHO DO WILL END UP MISERABLE.**

This is the story of a family that was seemingly devoted to God's word and will that self-destructs in a matter of moments. Just because a family starts well does not mean it will finish well.

#### **SCENE #1 - The rebellious character of Esau. 26:34-35**

Esau married in total defiance of Abrahamic and Isaac principles which forbade taking a Canaanite wife (24:3; 28:6-9). The word "grief" indicates that Esau caused his father and mother to be so mentally irritated that they would bitterly weep (Gesenius, *Hebrew Lexicon*, p. 511). Esau's rebellious character cannot be blamed on the parents because they raised him differently.

#### **SCENE #2 - The appetite desire of Isaac. 27:1-4**

Isaac was old (27:1), blind (27:1) and bedridden (27:19, 31). Isaac in his old age, was losing his sight but not his appetite. His great desire was to eat venison before he died and bless Esau. Somehow, in his old age, he had lost touch with the great desire to do God's will. When you get older you can either have a life that is a story of blessing or one that is a story of horror. The fact that he desired to give the blessing to Esau seems to demonstrate that he either did not know of the switch in the birthright (25:33) or of the oracle of God (25:23), which He gave to Rebekah or he was intent on blessing Esau anyway. **What we see here is that no one ever thwarts the sovereign plan of God.**

#### **SCENE #3 - The dishonest plot of Rebekah. 27:5-17**

This family was totally bizarre - no one trusted anyone. Rebekah is spying on Isaac (27:5); Isaac does not trust Jacob (27:21); Esau does not trust Jacob (27:41). This family is a mess. Esau immediately went hunting and Rebekah immediately went to scheming. She knew Isaac had a weakness for food and she decided to use this to her advantage. Instead of her being a quiet, submissive wife who is of great value in God's sight, she is a manipulative, subversive woman who lies to her husband. Jacob's big concern (v. 12) was not God's will, but that he would get caught. Verses 15-16 do make it clear that one cannot receive the blessings of God without a change of clothing. However, no trickery will ever fool God; the clothing must be His righteousness (Isaiah 61:10).

#### **SCENE #4 - The lying deception of Jacob. 27:18-29**

In verse 19, Jacob blatantly lies to his father. His first lies were about Esau, but his last lies are about God (27:19-20). Isaac was not completely convinced that it was Esau's voice, but when he felt the hair on Jacob, he was fooled (27:22-23). This is some mother and son, taking advantage of a man who is nearly blind. The blessing included a blessing of prosperity (27:27-28), a blessing of position (27:29a) and a blessing of protection (27:29b). They stole this blessing.

**Question #1** - Why would God permit this scheme to succeed?

Although we may never fully know the answer to this, apparently the evil of attempting to change something God has chosen is a worse evil than deceptive lying. Neither “sin nor error” can entangle the program of God.

**Question #2** - What were the consequences for Rebekah and Jacob?

The mother lost her son and her son had to flee for his life and for all we know Rebekah never saw Jacob again. When Jacob gives his own commentary on His life to Pharaoh, he says “few and unpleasant have been the years of my life” (Genesis 47:9). Choose to be deceptive and you’ll pay a high price.

**SCENE #5** - The disturbing reaction of Isaac. 27:30-33

When Isaac realized he had blessed the wrong son, he violently shook (27:33). What caused this reaction? Isaac realized he had just been out-tricked by his family and overruled by God.

**SCENE #6** - The emotional reaction of Esau. 27:34-41

**Reaction #1** - The reaction of crying. 27:34 - The tears are too late. Not repentance, but regret.

**Reaction #2** - The reaction of blaming. 27:36-37 - Blaming others, not self is a normal response.

**Reaction #3** - The reaction of begging. 27:38-40 - It was too late to change anything.

**Reaction #4** - The reaction of hating. 27:41 - The one who would live by the sword would use it first on his own brother.

**SCENE #7** - The tragic response of Rebekah. 27:42-46

Rebekah got what she wanted but look where it left her, she ended up weary of life.

God does not want His people scheming in order to accomplish things He has promised. We need to learn to stay focused on God’s Word until the end of our lives. It has been observed that we may try to forget the decisions we make, but the decisions we make won’t forget us. If we use deceitful tactics as a means of getting our way, we will weave a tangled web for ourselves that will leave us a wreck. One of the best things an aging parent can do is to show the children and communicate to them the importance of focusing on God’s word and one key point is - No one can ever manipulate a proper relationship with God. There is only one way to be clothed in His righteousness and that is by believing on the One who eventually came through the line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Believe on Jesus Christ and you are destined for God’s blessings.