

GENESIS Chapter 27 REBEKAH "HELPS" THE LORD

A dysfunctional family; parents showing favoritism and members lying and deceiving one another.  
Trouble ahead.

Read verses 1-4

Ishmael died at age 137. now, with cataracts on his eyes, Isaac has reached that age and thinks, perhaps his time is coming soon.

He was determined to give Esau the blessing. Had he forgotten God's word on the subject, or was he simply plowing ahead with his own desires to turn everything over to Esau?

Esau had no need to hunt, for there was plenty of food from the livestock. They were rich. He simply loved the hunt, rather than the life of the family.

Issac, in Esau's gratitude for the blessing, expected Esau to satisfy his appetite. ; one more delicious venison stew.

Verses 5-10

Rebekah eavesdropped.

Let's look at this family for a moment. Isaac had a passive personality. He seems to have gone with the flow of whatever was happening in order, mainly to keep peace.

Rebekah, on the other hand, was a chayil woman,; a take charge type. When a husband fails to lead or to do what is right, often the wife will step in and take control. Exactly what she tried to do.

Favoritism was the seed of the problem and it grew and bloomed into broken relationships.

If the marriage had been one where communication happened, she could have talked to Isaac, but, instead she tried to manipulate the situation, and her favorite son became the more important focus rather than her husband.

Esau, we see, was impulsive and had a rebellious and, perhaps, thoughtless streak. He was the most important person in his life.

Rebekah's plan: to help her son by "helping God."

Verses 11-17

Jacob feared showing disrespect to his father "mocking his blindness" with deceit.

He claimed Esau was "seir," which means 'shaggy or a he-goat.'

Father will see me as a cheater. He was afraid Isaac would "see" through the scheme and bring down a curse on Jacob. Rebekah said, "Let the curse be on me,"

She thought she had all bases covered.

Sight-check, Isaac couldn't see, smell-Esau's best clothing, touch- hairy goat skins, and taste-her yummy stew, hearing- oops! She forgot the differences in the twins' voices.

Verses 18-24

Here am I, Ani' can also mean "firstborn," so technically, Jacob was the firstborn in regard to birthright, but in verse 19,, he was completely lying in saying he was Esau.

Verse 20-Isaac's suspicions are aroused (and will be 3 times) and wondered how Esau could provide so quickly.

Verse 22- Jacob's voice again caused suspicion. Lying will always trip someone up, eventually. Then more lies are needed.

Verses 23, 24-Discerned him not...Isaac did not reject him because of the suspicion, still had some doubt. He sounded so much like Jacob!

Verse 25

Jacob brought Isaac wine for his meal.

Verses 26, 27

Convinced now, Isaac is ready to give the blessing.

Verses 28, 29

The fatness of the earth refers to the land promised by God. Plenty of grain and fresh sweet grape juice. You'll have people under your service, even your brethren.

And, again, the blessing and cursing of all nations concerning the Jews. The success of any nations is dependent on how they treat Israel.

Verses 30-32

Jacob barely got out the door of the tent when Esau showed up.

Verses 33-34

Finding he'd been tricked, Isaac realizes the ramifications. He shuttered with panic and terror, for he had attempted to go around the will of God by blessing Esau, his favorite.

Though it happened not the way God intended, the deed was done and the rightful person was blessed. The oath was irreversible.

Esau let out a bitter shriek. Bitter in Hebrew is Mar (Masculine) Mara is feminine form. Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law said, "Call me Mara."

Verse 35

Isaac: "Your brother came with deceitfulness, acting in a fraudulent manner.

Verse 36

Blame game-Wasn't Jacob aptly named! Esau took no blame for willingly surrendering his birthright years before. It's so easy to put all the blame on someone else, but the greater sin was upon Isaac and Esau, attempting to change God's plan.

Esau: So what about me? Didn't you save a blessing for me?

Verse 37

Everything would go to Jacob. He would be the next patriarch and leader of the Hebrews. With all the property and wealth that goes along.

Isaac: What can I do?

Verse 38

Imagine the scene: Esau was having a fit and neither could believe what had happened. Isaac had nothing more to offer him.

"Come on, Dad, you have only one blessing to give?"

Verses 39, 40

Hebrew Scripture says, "You'll live OUTSIDE the fatness of the land and you'll live by the sword and serve your brothers. In other words, Isaac simply reiterated the blessing for Jacob, but in reverse.

Esau and his descendants would live as nomads, not in the land promised by the Lord., but in Edom a land to SW named for Esau.

The Edomites were a violent, warring people. During King David's reign, they did serve them, but (2 Kings 8:20-22) much later rose up and freed themselves as the prophesy said.

Esau, indeed, did live by the sword, and went to live a life of war, stealing and piracy.

Verse 41

Hatred in full bloom, "Esau said in his heart..." The heart is the center of the feelings, the will, even the intellect.

Our spirit rests in our hearts. The heart is where it begins, good thoughts or bad.

Genesis 8:21: God said in His heart, "I will not again curse the ground for man's sake."

Daniel purposed in his heart he would not eat the king's food.

Psalms 14:1: "The fool has said in his heart there is no God."

Esther 6:6: "Haman thought in his heart, to whom would the king delight to do honor more than myself?"

Esau said in his heart he would kill Jacob after his father passed. (thinking it would be soon)

Verse 42

Somebody ratted on Esau to Rebekah. The thought of his plan of vengeance by killing Jacob gave Esau purpose and he nursed that idea to console himself.

Verses 43-46

Another plan from Rebekah. She continued to manipulate the situation, telling Jacob he must leave quickly for Laban's household until Esau cools down.

Why should I be deprived of two sons in one day? If Esau had killed Jacob, the nearest relative called the Avenger of Blood, would track Esau down and execute him. She then would lose both.

Later, the Law allowed for cities of refuge in cases of manslaughter, or accidental deaths. A fugitive would run to the nearest city of refuge and remain there without consequences. If the High Priest died, he would then be free to go, his case forgiven.

Our High Priest Yeshua, died and we, too, received our pardon.

One more manipulation from Rebekah. She went to Isaac complaining about those Pagan daughters-in-law. If Jacob also marries one, my life won't be worth living. Hint, hint. Send Jacob up to Laban's and have him look for a bride there. She was planting the seeds for Jacob to have a reason to escape Esau's hand

Have you figured out the age of these "boys" at this time? Esau married at age 40, 37 years before.

God is in control of everything, even when we get impatient and act without checking with God. His perfect plan will still unfold. He just has to work around us.

If Esau had accepted God's will in the matter, he would have recognized his part in the whole mess., but he was not a spiritual man, but a sensual man with a worldly appetite. The idea of God involved in his life wasn't important; only the land and the power it brought.

There could have been forgiveness on both sides and reconciliation for all the family, but now Rebekah would pay a terrible price for her meddling, never to see her beloved son again on this earth.

## CHAPTER 28

Verses 1-5

Isaac sends Jacob with his blessing of El Shaddai (The Almighty God Who Supplies) to find a bride from Laban's family.

Verses 6-9

Esau took note of this: Jacob obeyed his parents. Wow! It's like Esau hadn't even given it a thought one way or another as to the wishes of his parents regarding his marriages. He had just taken wives without counsel. Maybe he had just been oblivious to their concerns., but now he tried to make up for it and had hopes of pleasing his father by marrying again, this time to a daughter of Ishmael, Isaac's brother. Her name was Mahalath, meaning, "Sickness." oh, dear..

Verses 10-16

Off Jacob went, probably the first time on his own. At sunset, he found a stone to use as a headrest. In Jacob's dream God revealed Himself to him, that Jacob would be blessed and would become the next patriarch of the family; that God would be with him and would bring him back to the land one day, our only way to heaven.

Jacob saw a stairway to heaven with angels going up and down and the Lord God Yahoveh at the top, God in control of everything with the stairway representative of Christ

God says, "I Myself, I Am," The Lord God (Yahoveh Elohim) of Abraham..  
"Your seed shall spread from the sea to the East, to the North, To the Negev (which is south.)  
The Lord was reassuring Jacob at the beginning of his journey that he wasn't alone.,  
Jacob finally was aware of God in his life because of that personal visit.

Verses 17-22

Jacob now has a reverential fear of God, and says "How awesome is this place!"  
He used the stone as a pillar to mark the place and anointed it with oil (first time mentioned in Bible)  
The he called it Beth-El , the House of God.  
The Pagan name for the near-by town was Luz, meaning, "almond tree."

Jacob vows that if Abraham's God will keep him and provide for him, he will be Jacob's God, also.

Go to Genesis 35:1 (the promised return)

Jacob promised to give God a tenth,just as Abraham did in Genesis 14:20.