

To
Steal a
Blessing

Genesis Chapter Twenty-Seven



~ We wake up this morning in our Spiritual Safari at an expedition outpost in a cave that constitutes the home of Isaac. Jacob and Rebekah are conniving together for whatever unknown reason - to get Jacob the blessing that is already his. This reveals the very definite and disturbing conflict in this home, as well as rebellion and total unbelief towards God. Isaac intends to ignore that the blessing was sold by Esau and ignore that the blessing had been promised, by God, to the younger son, Jacob. Isaac just disregards all of that and proceeds to initiate the blessing for Esau. Well, Jacob sincerely wanted what was his from his father – and he wanted it NOW - and Jacob knew God had promised his mother that the elder would serve the younger.

See, the blessing was Jacob's to be seized – but not this way – and Jacob was unable to lay hold of God's blessing at this time, because he simply didn't believe God. Rebekah did not believe God, either; and, evidently, Isaac didn't believe God, or he never would have attempted to bi-pass Jacob and cause such division and hatred to ensue in his household. God will not bless this type of thing, friends. It has tragic consequences – every single time. Have you noticed in this so-called safari that the Bible isn't exactly what you were taught in Sunday school? This is a terrible story of a broken home.

Jacob follows his own instinct and appetite now in direct contradiction to the distinct revelation from the Word of God. The method Jacob uses to obtain this blessing is fraud and it can neither be supported nor condoned on any Biblical basis whatsoever. Jacobs's conduct is abjectly dastardly; and it's on par with the matter of Hagar and Ishmael, too, by the way. God will not use your clever trickery to bless anyone with anything at any time, my beloved; and God will repay Jacob for what happens next in the same

currency Jacob is trafficking in here. Lying was Jacob's sin; and God hates sin – and be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man shall sow, that shall he also reap. This is another deeply solemn section of Scripture we have come to; an area of the Bible that is also completely neglected today. I think I can honestly say I have never heard a sermon from this part of Holy Writ. I can also honestly say that the Spiritual Safari is not some daily devotional.

Alright, with that preliminary statement being made, let's look back briefly over the last chapter and refresh our minds. We left Esau at about forty years old. He had taken a Hittite to wife - and that caused "a great grief of mind" with Isaac and Rebekah. If you are Godly parents today, and your children marry ungodly spouses, then catastrophe has come to your family. It cannot be otherwise. God has permitted it to happen – and I would suggest you work out whatever problem you have in your relationship with Christ immediately. It's time we all get honest with God and ourselves for a change today.

In our previous report, Abimelech and the Philistines wanted to make a treaty with Isaac because they feared him. Isaac was a well-respected man in the land. This whole shady business agreement that Jacob will soon enter into with Uncle Laban will result in nothing good for Jacob except for his own learning; but the lessons are going to be harsh. Interestingly, if Jacob hadn't run away to Uncle Laban's house then he would have probably ended up with a Hittite woman as a wife, too. God sometimes works His way in our life whether we like it or not, friends. We'll see a dramatic and vividly remarkable example of this providential leading by God when we get to the Book of Esther. If you have ever prayed, even just one time, "....Thy will be done" - then you are eternally accountable unto the Lord forevermore....

1 And it came to pass, that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his eldest son, and said unto him, My son: and he said unto him, Behold, here am I.

2 And he said, Behold now, I am old; I know not the day of my death:

3 Now therefore take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, and go out to the field, and take me some venison;

4 And make me savory meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die.

~ The picture we see reveals Isaac favoring Esau and Rebekah favoring Jacob. That also displays the weakness of the flesh in their lives. Esau would go out and kill a deer and make some venison jerky for his father; and the old man really enjoyed that sort of thing. Now, as we all sit around this cave, Isaac is old and blind. He can't get out there like he used to. So, he decides to bless his son out of the clear blue sky. Isaac knows full-well that God had said, "...the elder shall serve the younger;" but he ignores it because deep down he loves Esau just a little bit more than he loved Jacob. Old man Isaac says, "...if you'll go out and get me something to eat I'll bless you." What a raw and naked picture we have here showing the strife in this family! Ever since the incident with Hagar there has been unceasing strife in Abraham's family the entire time. That strife and envy are never going to cease without Christ returning to establish His earthly Kingdom, either....

5 And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison, and to bring it.

6 And Rebekah spake unto Jacob her son, saying, Behold, I heard thy father speak unto Esau thy brother, saying,

7 Bring me venison, and make me savoury meat, that I may eat, and bless thee before the LORD before my death.

8 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to that which I command thee.

~ Here we have the plot and plan of Rebekah laid out in no uncertain terms; and it is one of fraud, deceit, trickery – we've already gone over all of that in this report. We have it recorded in the Bible as history – not as an example of how we might choose to live our lives. God will condemn this wholesale, my beloved - and we're going to see it again in complete detail

and have the myriad horrible ramifications thereof explained later in the Word of God. Remember now the little we have right here, and you'll see Jacob reap a field full of very bad things with the full blown, fully bloomed bad fruit he'll soon be sowing. It is funny how Jacob says, "... I'll seem to him as a deceiver!" Jacob IS a deceiver! See, the only thing Jacob is worried about here is getting caught....

9 Go now to the flock, and fetch me from thence two good kids of the goats; and I will make them savoury meat for thy father, such as he loveth :

10 And thou shalt bring it to thy father, that he may eat , and that he may bless thee before his death.

11 And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man:

12 My father peradventure will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.

13 And his mother said unto him, Upon me be thy curse, my son: only obey my voice, and go fetch me them.

14 And he went, and fetched, and brought them to his mother: and his mother made savoury meat, such as his father loved.

15 And Rebekah took goodly raiment of her eldest son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them upon Jacob her younger son:

16 And she put the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck:

17 And she gave the savoury meat and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

~ Rebekah put the skin of the kid and the goat on the back of Jacobs's hands and neck, so he felt like him but, friends, Jacob had to smell like Esau,

too! I'm saying there may have been some serious hygiene issues in this home. Two men were working very close together and the one said to the other, "I think one of our deodorants have stopped working." And the other man replied, "It must be you, then, because I'm not wearing any!" I just get the feeling there could have been some better taking care of concerning themselves physically. I say that to say this to Christians today: Christians ought to have a little bit better spiritual hygiene. Most have terribly bad breath – that means they shouldn't be opening their mouths. If you're not bathing in the water of the Word of God every day you probably have spiritual body odor; in fact, I know you do! Let's get ourselves cleaned up with a little Bible study, friends. If you're with me on this expedition today then you're well on your way – and we will reach the end - where we shall be thoroughly washed, God hath assured us – in His Word....

18 And he came unto his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I; who art thou, my son?

19 And Jacob said unto his father, I am Esau thy firstborn; I have done according as thou badest me: arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me.

20 And Isaac said unto his son, How is it that thou hast found it so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the LORD thy God brought it to me.

~ Now, I know those of you who know me saw a comment coming a mile away with verse twenty! Jacob, here, is a typical religious pious fraud! This is what you find crawling all over this forum on which I teach. They're like termites; and the results are identical. They talk about the Lord leading them – well – the Lord sure seems to lead them to do some very strange things and say even stranger things! I don't buy it. Over the recent decades of American history, the church has gotten away with things the mafia criminals were all locked up for: murder, porn, child rape, theft, extortion, etc. There was a time when questioning a Catholic priest was tantamount to blasphemy – right here in the USA! The Lord had noting to do with Jacob getting this meat to his dad. Isaac gets suspicious now, but Rebekah knew Isaac better than Isaac knew Isaac. She had this deception thing all worked out easy....

21 And Isaac said unto Jacob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou be my very son Esau or not.

22 And Jacob went near unto Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.

23 And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he blessed him.

24 And he said, Art thou my very son Esau? And he said, I am.

25 And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine, and he drank.

26 And his father Isaac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

27 And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the LORD hath blessed:

28 Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine:

29 Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.

30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

32 And Isaac his father said unto him, Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.

33 And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? Where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, and he shall be blessed .

34 And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father.

35 And he said, Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing.

36 And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?

37 And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?

38 And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? bless me, even me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.

39 And Isaac his father answered and said unto him, Behold, thy dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above;

40 And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck.

41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; as soon as he dies then will I slay my brother Jacob.

42 And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee.

43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran;

~ For the second time in this one chapter we see Rebekah not consulting the Lord and taking matters into her own hands. She packs Jacob up now and he's going to have to run away in the middle of the night. Rebekah has to send away her favorite son because of what she has done, and she will never see him alive again. I think she would tell you she paid too dearly for her part in this sin. I think she would also tell you that she wishes she hadn't done it. It was only supposed to mean that Jacob would be gone until Esau cooled down a little. She had no earthly idea she wouldn't live to see his return twenty years later. Not only that, but Laban's place is where Jacob is really going to get some hard and cruel lessons of life. I wonder if Rebekah considered all of this as she sent him back there. Notice what she says now....

44 And tarry with him a few days, until thy brother's fury turn away;

45 Until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him: then I will send, and fetch thee from thence: why should I be deprived also of you both in one day?

46 And Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth: if Jacob take a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these which are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?

~ I have always wondered what relationship Rebekah and Esau had after this little incident. Esau had married into the heathen godless causing sorrow to fill the home. Rebekah was overwhelmed by that alone. Of course, she is using this as an excuse to steal Jacob away so suddenly because it's a convenient deception. I doubt Isaac was fully aware that Esau would have literally killed Jacob at this point. Alright, we need to rest our minds up for the next leg of our Spiritual Safari. As we move on, we're going to see that God does not want the ungodly marrying His children. Remember, back in chapter six the sons of God married the daughters of men – that's the Godly line intermingling with the ungodly line; and that intermarriage will NEVER – NEVER – NEVER lead to Godly living. It ALWAYS – ALWAYS – ALWAYS leads to GODLESSNESS.

I gave my word of caution in the very beginning of this report: We are living in a day when youngsters aren't apt to take advice from some old geezer Bible teacher like me; they don't think I know very much – but, friends, I just happen to be an expert at this particular subject. If you think you can win a spouse after you're married then why couldn't you win them before you were married? You might want to think about that. Everyone is asking the pastor today the question, "....should I get a divorce?" - but they never ask the pastor the question, "....should we get married in the first place?" - and for a pastor to offer such advice to a young person will be seen as an insult and the cause for alienation. Who wants to risk that? If the young couple today can't see Christ and have an example of His love through your life then they aren't apt to listen to you, either. Rebekah had that heartbreak in one son and created another heartbreaking sorrow in her life with the other. Friends, you won't beat God. Not ever. Throughout the entirety of Scripture, when the Godly marry the ungodly, there is trouble – nothing but trouble ~

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