



*In the beginning...*

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

# The Life of Isaac

# Esau – Man of the World

<sup>34</sup> And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beerli the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite:

<sup>35</sup> Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.

Genesis 26:34-35

- Esau walked by sight, not by faith!
- He had a *'If it feels good, do it'* mentality
  - This is the mantra of the world today!
  - *"Why can't we just do what we want?"*

Because...

In The Beginning...

GOD

Not, "In the beginning you"!

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

**Exodus 20:4-6**

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment

- Issue of misrepresentation
- God is jealous of His name, character & attributes
- Anything that touches these is idolatry
- Idolatry –
  - making a God in your own image,
  - from your own imagination,
  - to suit your own desires





*In the beginning...*

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

# The Life of Isaac

Chapter 27-

# Genesis 27

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> And he said, Behold now, I am old, I know not the day of my death:

**Genesis 27:1-2**

- Isaac believes he is about to die
  - He is now 137 years old (the same age Ishmael died)
- Yet he will live to be 180 years old
  - Gen 38:28

# Genesis 27

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

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

**Genesis 27:3-4**

- The weapons of Esau were carnal
- Our weapons are spiritual



# The Wisdom of Man

- Before he dies Isaac wants to pass on “the blessing” to Esau
- However, God had already foreordained that the blessing would fall upon Jacob!
- Remember God’s prophesy to Rebekah
  - *And the Lord said to her: “Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger.” Genesis 25:23*
  - There is a way that seems right to man!

# Esau – A Man of the World

- Esau's description
  - “a skillful hunter, a man of the field”
- Esau has already sold his birthright
- He had married two Hittite wives
  - *“Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah”. Gen 26:35*
- Isaac's preference for Esau is natural
  - *“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned”. 1 Cor 2:14*

# Family Tensions

<sup>28</sup> And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

**Genesis 25:28**

# Genesis 27

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

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

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

**Genesis 27:5-7**



# Genesis 27

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

<sup>9</sup> 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:

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

**Genesis 27:8-10**

# Genesis 27

<sup>11</sup> *And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother...*

Thanks for you concern mother, but will trust in the  
LORD *and lean not on my understanding...*

Promotion comes neither from the east or the west, but  
*from the LORD...*

I will wait upon Him!

Genesis 27:11-13

# Genesis 27

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

<sup>12</sup> 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.

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

**Genesis 27:11-13**

- Jacob highlights all the things that are wrong with this plan...
- *Except the fact that the plan is wrong!*

# Genesis 27

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

<sup>15</sup> 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:

**Genesis 27:14-15**



# Genesis 27

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

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

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

**Genesis 27:16-18**

# The Gifts & Calling of God

- Question: What would have happened if Isaac had refused his mothers request?
- Would God's plan have come undone?
- *“For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable”* Romans 11:29

# Jacob's Temptation

- Jacob allows his mother to wrongly influence him
- Remember...Jacob is 70+ years old here
- Jacob could have back out at any time...
- It is our own desires that lead to sin
  - “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed” James 1:1
- The basic pattern of temptation:
  - The short-cut to the promise
    - Gen 3 / Luke 4

# Genesis 27

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

**Genesis 27:19-20**

- Notice how he now takes the name of the LORD in vain!



# Genesis 27

<sup>21</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> 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.

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

**Genesis 27:21-23**

# Genesis 27

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.

**Genesis 27:24-25**

# Genesis 27

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

<sup>27</sup> 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:

**Genesis 27:26-27**

# Jacob's Sad Success

- “The **voice** *is* Jacob’s voice”
- “...but the **hands** *are* the hands of Esau.”
- Isaac’s question, “*Are you really my son Esau?*”
- “he **kissed** him...”
- “and **smelled** the smell of his rainment”
- Isaac is using the senses of the flesh to determine TRUTH
- Finally Isaac is (or allows himself to be!) deceived
- *How do you determine what is true?*

# Genesis 27

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.

**Genesis 27:28-29**

- This is a reiteration of the blessings & promises given to Abraham, that were subsequently passed onto Isaac.

# Genesis 27

**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.

**Genesis 27:30-31**



# Genesis 27

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

<sup>33</sup> 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.

Genesis 27:32-33

- *“By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come” Hebrews 11:20*

# Genesis 27

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.

**Genesis 27:34**

- Oh the bitter cries of those who come face to face with the consequences of their actions apart from Christ!

# Genesis 27

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

<sup>36</sup> 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?

Genesis 27:35-36

- Esau is an 'historic revisionist'!
- *He* “gave up” his birthright...
  - **Jacob did not steal it!**

# Esau's Remorse

- Tears of Regret or Repentance?
  - *“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears”*

Hebrews 12:14-17

# Genesis 27

<sup>37</sup> 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?

<sup>38</sup> 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.

**Genesis 27:37-38**

# Genesis 27

<sup>39</sup> 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;

<sup>40</sup> 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.

**Genesis 27:39-40**



# Predestination or Free Will?

- Jacob Hermaan (Arminius) 1560-1609
- Rejected the position set forward by John Calvin (1509-1564)
- Arminius' followers proposed 'Five Points of Arminianism'
- This was debated at the Synod of Dort over 154 sessions – eventually concluding that Arminianism was heretical
- As a rebuttal, followers of John Calvin established the 'Five Points of Calvinism'

# Predestination or Free Will?

- Arminianism
  - Free Will
  - Conditional Election
  - Universal Atonement
  - Obstructable Grace
  - Falling From Grace
- Calvinism
  - Total Depravity
  - Unconditional Election
  - Limited Atonement
  - Irresistible Grace
  - Perseverance of the Saints
- *Both are right in what they assert...*
- *But wrong in what they deny!* - Chuck Missler

# Predestination or Free Will?

- Romans 9:6-13
- “I believe in the predestination of free will!”
  - *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will” Eph 1:3-5*

# Predestination or Free Will?



Whosoever will may come...

# Predestination or Free Will?

*“Chosen in him before the foundation of the world”*



# Genesis 27

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; 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.



# Genesis 27

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

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?

**Genesis 27:43-45**

“A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle” (Prov 18:19)

# Rebekah's Loss

- She plans to send him to her brother's house
- She thinks he will be there "a few days"
- Jacob stays 20+ years
- No record of Rebekah ever seeing Jacob again

# Genesis 27

<sup>46</sup> 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?

**Genesis 27:46**

# Rebekah's Final Words

- “I am weary of my life...”
- Once again she is troubled by Esau’
- God will prophesy over Esau again...

# Esau's Future

## Obadiah 1:8-10

*“Will I not in that day,” says the Lord,  
“Even destroy the wise men from Edom,  
And understanding from the mountains of Esau?  
Then your mighty men, O Teman, shall be  
dismayed, to the end that everyone from the  
mountains of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.  
“For violence against your brother Jacob,  
Shame shall cover you,  
And you shall be cut off forever.*

# Esau's Future

“For violence against your brother Jacob,  
Shame shall cover you,  
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