

Genesis 26-27: Lies & Blessings.

I. Isaac Tales...

God confirms His covenant to Isaac...famine...Isaac flees and lies about his wife...Abimelech takes Rebekah...Isaac and Rebekah are busted...they are rebuked by a pagan king, even as his father was...Isaac's wealthy...disputes about water and wells lead Isaac back to Beersheba...God again confirms His promise to Isaac...peace agreement with Isaac because the LORD is with him...polygamous Esau grieves his parents...a *fornicator* and *profane person* - [Hebrews 12:16](#).

Isaac insists on passing on the blessing to Esau...Rebekah and Jacob connive against Isaac's plan...the plan succeeds...Isaac blesses Esau...Esau weeps asking for some blessing...Isaac trembles realizing he had been tricked...Isaac gives some inheritance to Esau...Esau is angry and bitter, planning to kill Jacob in revenge...Jacob advised to flee for a few days (20 years)...Rebekah doesn't want Jacob to marry Heth's daughters...

- i. The entire household is in sin and conflict...situational, personality and structural.
- **Isaac** insisted on giving the blessing to Esau, not Jacob, against God's instruction.

The words of the blessing are filled with pictures of the LORD's covenant to Abraham.

- **Rebekah** advises Jacob to deceive his father Isaac in order to receive the covenant blessing.
- **Jacob** is willing to go along with this plan. His only concern is whether or not it will *succeed*. He lies to his father about his identity.
- **Esau** wants to have what he had already sold to his younger brother.

[Hebrews 12:15-17](#) - *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.*

ii. What should've happened...

- **Isaac** was supposed to follow God's instructions in communicating and passing on the covenant to Jacob.
- **Rebekah** should've trusted God to work His way.
- **Jacob** shouldn't have listened to his mother in scheming to get Isaac's blessing.
- **Esau** shouldn't have disregarded and sold his birthright in the first place. He had no right to claim what he had already sold.

However, the sovereign will of God is done, in spite of their failures and sinfulness.

i. Put away...

Isaiah 1:16 - *"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil,*

Hebrews 9:26 - *He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.*

Ephesians 4:31 - *Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.*

ii. Pursue...

Romans 14:19 - *Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.*

1 Timothy 6:10-11 - *For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.*

2 Timothy 2:22 - *Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*