

ISAAC'S EARLY MARRIED LIFE

Genesis 25

Having provided a godly wife for Isaac, Abraham's responsibilities toward Isaac were ended. Read now what happened during the rest of his life, and in the years which followed as Isaac began his married life:

A. The Last Days of Abraham: Read Genesis 25:1-11

1. Since Abraham was 100 years old when Sarah was 90 (Genesis 17:17), how old would he have been when Sarah died at the age of 127?

2. What did Abraham do after Sarah had died? Genesis 25:1

3. How many children did he have as a result? Genesis 25:2

NOTE: The descendants of one of these, the Midianites, will appear later in Genesis and also in Judges. Watch for them.

4. What did Abraham do to all of his sons except Isaac? Genesis 25:6

5. How old was Abraham when he died? Genesis 25:7, 8

B. The Descendants of Ishmael: Read Genesis 25:12-18

1. How many sons did Ishmael have? Genesis 25:13-16

2. Where did they live? Genesis 25:18 (Locate the territory on a map.)

C. The Children of Isaac: Read Genesis 25:19-26

1. How old was Isaac when he married? Genesis 25:20

2. As the years passed, what did Isaac discover about his wife? Genesis 25:21b

3. What did he do about this problem? Genesis 25:1a

4. Did Isaac have any reason to believe that it was God's will for him to have children? How could he know? Genesis 17:19

5. What effect would this assurance have upon his prayers? (*THINK!*)

6. Did Isaac's prayers bring any change concerning his problem? Genesis 25:21c, d

7. What two predictions did God make concerning Isaac's children even before they were born? Genesis 25:23b

a. _____

b. _____

8. When the children were born, what were they named? Genesis 25:24-26

D. The Early Life of the Children: Read Genesis 25-27, 28

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1. As the boys grew up, what did each become? Genesis 25:27
 - a. Esau: _____
 - b. Jacob: _____
2. What unfortunate situation developed within the family because of the differences in the two boys? Genesis 25:28

E. Early Relationships Between the Two Children: Read Genesis 25:29-34

1. What was Jacob doing one day? Genesis 25:29a

2. How did Esau feel as he came in from hunting that day? Genesis 25:29b

3. Therefore, what did he ask Jacob to do for him? Genesis 25:30a

Notice that he was called Edom, which means red, because of this request: Genesis 25:30b
4. On what condition did Jacob say he would grant Esau's request? Genesis 25:31

NOTE: The birthright included (1) the right to rule the family or tribe; (2) the right to a double portion of the father's material goods, and, in this case, (3) the right to the spiritual blessings promised to Abraham and Isaac.
5. Was the birthright of equal value with the pottage which Jacob had made?

6. Yet what did Esau say he was about to do? Genesis 25:32a

7. If this should happen, would the birthright do him any good? Genesis 25:32b

8. Therefore, what did he do? Genesis 25:33

9. Do you think Esau would actually have died if he had not gotten food at that instant?

10. Did Esau seem satisfied at this time with the bargain he had made?
Genesis 25:34a, b

11. What does this show about the value Esau placed upon his birthright? Genesis 25:34c

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Did God lead Jacob to make such a bargain as this with Esau? Did God approve of Jacob's actions? What did Jacob behave as he did? Was it his responsibility to see that God's promises concerning him were fulfilled? How was Jacob's method different from that employed by Isaac in obtaining that which God had promised concerning him? Which was the better method?

1. In my eagerness to gain what God has promised me, do I ever take unfair advantage of another in his time of weakness? Or do I always seek the Lord, resting in Him, and waiting patiently for Him to fulfill His promises in His own way, in His own time? (See Psalm 37:4, 5, 7a)