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How Firm a Foundation

Lesson Four: Esau and Jacob
Chapters 25-33

Go to

www.stronghands10.com
for audio and notes.



The Audience: The Israelites, descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, had been set free from Egypt and slavery and were about to possess the land of Canaan.

God SAID...and Abraham believed it would be so even before he visibly saw it.

God SEPARATED...Abraham from the other nations in order to bring light and to govern.

Isaac is the promised SON.

**SAME PARENTS,
BOTH believe God's Word**

TWINS!

**Esau
(like Cain)**



**Jacob
(like Abel)**

TWO SEPARATE WAYS

How did Jacob end up with the Blessing of Abraham?

The Birthright and the Blessing: Esau

I can work
it out with
dad later!
Haha!



Sure Jacob, you
can have the
birthright! Now
give me some
FOOOOOD!!!



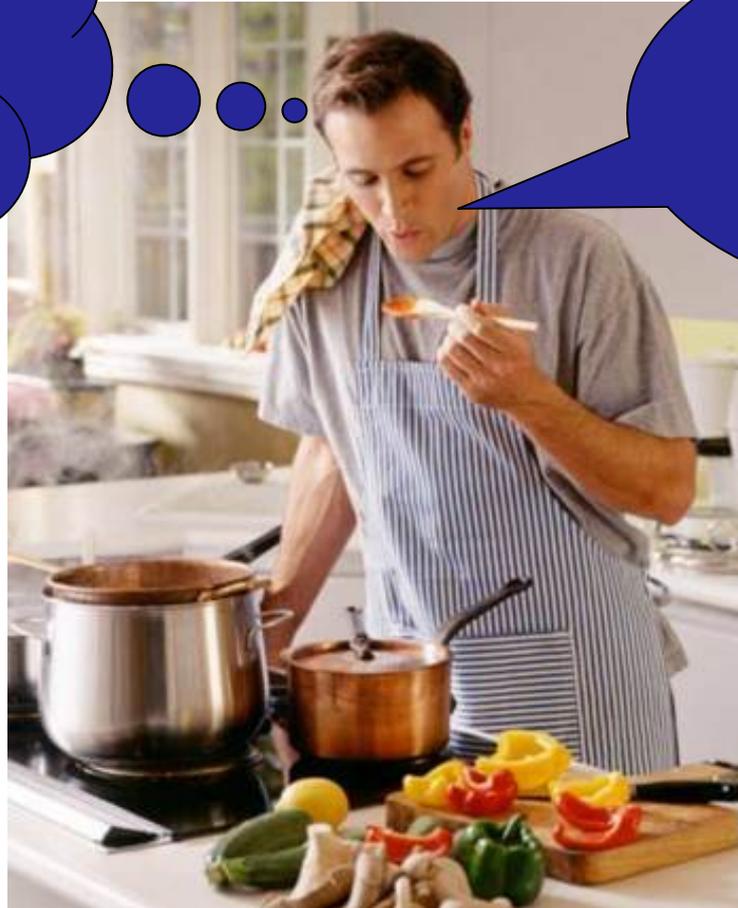
The LAND.
Descendants like the
stars and sand.
Those who bless you
will be blessed.
Those who curse you
will be cursed.
In you all the nations
will be blessed.

Esau **scorns** God, His Word,
His blessing, and His plan for the
nations. He marries 2 Canaanite women.

The Birthright and the Blessing: Jacob

**YES!
It's mine
now!
Haha!**

**Sure Esau, you
can have the
stew! Now give
me the birthright!**



**The LAND.
Descendants like the
stars and sand.
Those who bless you
will be blessed.
Those who curse you
will be cursed.
In you all the nations
will be blessed.**

Jacob **schemes to get ahead by using
God and His Word.**

Who has the right to give the Blessing of Abraham?

Did Jacob want the blessing of God
Or the God of the blessing?

ISAAC

REBEKAH

ESAU

JACOB



**Does JACOB
have the
Blessing?**

“The land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants.” (28:13)

**Jacob flees from Esau, traveling to Laban in
Padan Aram – Mesopotamia. (28)**



From Mesopotamia and Damascus

TransJordanian Highway

To Elat / Gulf of Aqaba

Peniel
Mahanaim
Succoth

Jericho

Shechem

Bethel

Salem

Hebron

Beersheba

The "International Highway"

Mediterranean Sea

To Egypt

After twenty years, as Jacob returns from Haran with his family, he wrestles with God at Peniel and meets Esau at Mahanaim. (32, 33)



Peniel on the Jabbok River



The site of Peniel at the fords of the Jabbok River



Site of Mahanaiam

The Jabbok stream
viewed eastward



After an absence of twenty years, Jacob returns to the land, stopping at Shechem with his large family. (33:17- ch. 34)

Two Sticky Issues in Esau-Jacob Story

#1

And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, **though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad**—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” As it is written, “**Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.**”

Romans 9:10-13

Two Sticky Issues in Esau-Jacob Story

#2

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright **for a single meal**. For you know that **afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.**

“I am acceptable to God because from infancy I’ve had the sign of the covenant.”

(Ishmael was circumcised too, but he wasn’t the son of promise.)

“I am acceptable to God because I’ve done the best I can to keep His laws.”

(God gave the blessing to Jacob before he had “done anything.” This isn’t the basis of God’s blessing.)

IF you can’t inherit it from your parents, and you can’t earn it, how do you get it? You receive it from God.

“I know the truth about God and I can live for my own pleasures and for what I can get now and it will still work out for me after I die.”

That was Esau’s thinking and he was wrong. If you despise God now, you don’t get the rewards of His blessing after you die. If you really belong to Him, you will go through trials, but God will be WITH YOU and protect you.”