

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What real reason, other than hunger, prompted Esau to sell his birthright?
2. What can we say about Jacob's motives in making this type of bargain?
3. Today our enemy also tries to barter with us for our soul. What can we learn from Esau?
4. How do we "follow after holiness"?

SUMMARY:

God knew before Jacob and Esau were born how they would live in relation to Him. It is not because He predestined it to be so, but rather because even before they were born, He knew their hearts. The Word of God tells us that "*man looketh on the outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart.*" (1 Samuel 16:7) The fact that Esau was more concerned for the carnal things than the spiritual points for us a picture of many today. They really want to be in fellowship with God but to maintain a close walk with God makes the price too high, when the hunger for the attractions of this life become such a driving force. We should beware lest losing this birthright we no longer find repentance, though we seek it with tears. [\[SoF:16\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:16\]](#) We believe that the gift of eternal life is a present possession of every true disciple of Jesus Christ, and that nothing nor anyone can take it from him. However, it is a realistic possibility for a true believer, of his own free will, to no longer "continue in the faith" but instead to apostatize, "depart from the faith", return to sin, and consequently forfeit the eternal life he once possessed.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

April 18, 2021

Second Quarter

ESAU SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT

LESSON TEXT: *Genesis 25:19-34; Hebrews 12:14-17*

LESSON SETTING: In the southern part of Canaan.

TIME: Approximately 1853 B.C.

I. SUBJECTS OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Genesis 25:19-26

- A. Esau –First-born (vs. 25)
 1. To be subject to the older (vs. 23) Romans 9:12
- B. Jacob–Second born (vs. 26)
 1. A stronger people (vs. 23) Romans 9:12-13

II. SELLING OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Genesis 25:27-34

- A. Overcome by Hunger (vs. 29-30) Proverbs 23:20-21
- B. Overcoming Hunger. Matthew 4:2-4; 2 Corinthians 11:27
- C. Dominated by Appetite (vs. 30) Numbers 11:4-6; Ecclesiastes 6:7; Isaiah 29:8; Hebrews 12:16
- D. Birthright Despised (vs. 34) Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-27; 2 Peter 2:20-22

III. SEEKING OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Hebrews 12:14-17

- A. Qualifications for Life:
 1. Peace with all men (vs. 14) Mark 9:50; Romans 12:18
 2. Holiness (vs. 14) Luke 1:74-75; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 2 Peter 3:11
 3. Defilement means loss (vs. 15a, 17) Mark 8:36; Luke 6:49; 1 Corinthians 3:17

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE LIFE IS MORE THAN MEAT, AND THE BODY IS MORE THAN RAIMENT.* Luke 12:23

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Genesis 27:1-33
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Romans 12:9-17

QUARTERLY THEME: The Patriarchs

TOPIC: JACOB WRONGS HIS BROTHER

INTRODUCTION:

Isaac, in his old age had become quite blind and in the great amount of time in which he had to think, his desire turned to his first-born son Esau, whom he loved more than Jacob. He desired to grant his blessings upon Esau before he died. This was customary but Esau had no right to this blessing which was to go with the birthright to the eldest son. He had sold this birthright for a morsel of food, never to regain it, though he sought it carefully with tears. However, he found no place of repentance within himself. (Hebrews 12:16-17)

On the other hand, Jacob was very wrong in seeking the birthright blessing (which now was to be given to him) by the practice of deceit and lying. Truly Jacob's life proves that "*as we sow so shall we reap.*" God's covenant was made with Jacob, but the plague of his sins still followed Him. He had to flee for his life. His Uncle Laban deceived him when he gave him Leah for a wife instead of Rachel. Later, his own sons deceived him when they sold Joseph into Egypt and then reported Joseph as having been killed by a wild animal.

We too, might gain certain things we desire by deceit and lying, but let us remember that the penalty is great and the price runs high. "*Lying lips are abomination to the Lord; but they that deal truly are his delight.*" (Proverbs 12:22)

CENTRAL TRUTH: Because sin is far-reaching in its effects, our sins may cause others to suffer.

GOLDEN TEXT: *HE THAT TELLETH LIES SHALL NOT TARRY IN MY SIGHT.*
Psalm 101:7

One sin that besets the world and comes into lives is the sin of lying. The world has graded these for size and color such as big lies, and little lies, black lies and white lies. The world even says that the little lies and the white lies are okay. But God's Words tells us that **all** lies are sin, that **all** lies are an abomination to Him, that **all** liars will be kept out of the new city Jerusalem (Revelation 21:8; 22:15), and shall rather be cast into the lake of fire.

Usually one lie is not sufficient but often requires a second one to cover the first one, then a third, etc. Our lesson concerning Jacob and Esau recounts three lies that were necessary for Jacob to tell to complete the deception.

But thanks be to God, Jacob repented and found forgiveness and became the one through whom all nations are blessed. Man today, obsessed with this terrible sin, can also repent, and find God's forgiveness and can become one who overcomes. Only those who "overcome" can inherit all things. (Revelation 21:7)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 19 – 25

- M. *Isaac Plans to Bless His Sons. Genesis 27:1-5
- T. *Rebekah Plans to Cheat Isaac. Genesis 27:6-13
- W. *Jacob Deceives His Father. Genesis 27:14-20
- T. *Jacob Wrongs His Brother. Genesis 27:21-33
- F. Isaac Prophesies about Esau. Genesis 27:34-40
- S. Jacob's Sin Compels Him to Flee. Genesis 27:41-46
- S. God Shows His Sovereign Love. Romans 9:6-16

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