

Genesis: God and Man

Two Nations

Genesis 25

Previously

- Sarah dies, Abraham buys the first piece of inheritance in the promised land: her burial grounds
- Abraham is getting old, sends Eliezar to find a bride from Abraham's hometown and family
- God provides Rebekah, she willingly goes

Today: Abraham dies, the torch is passed on to the son of the promise, Isaac

pray

:1-11

New wife, Keturah "incense"

It is not good that man should be alone - Gen 2:18a

Since she had sons, she wasn't a senior citizen

She could have had daughters too, but they're not listed in the genealogy

Concubines

Cultural, kingly thing to do. Grow a large family, power, influence. Also the flesh of man can lean this way.

God hasn't laid out the 10 commandments yet. But it was clear in the garden one wife was the intent.

All the trouble with Hagar and Ishmael years ago you'd think Abraham might have gleaned something from that and avoided it.

But it's not said that God tells Abraham not to.

Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac.

He made sure the son of the promise inherited it all

Sending other sons away to the east

Prevent conflict. Make it clear that Isaac was the one to inherit the land

The sum of his years, 175

Died in a good old age

Full of years

Abraham is mentioned 70 times in the New Testament alone.

Only Moses is mentioned more times in the New Testament (80 times). (Guzik)

What will the sum of our years be?

Psa 90:10, 12 NKJV - The days of our lives [are] seventy years; And if by reason of strength [they are] eighty years, Yet their boast [is] only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away. ... So teach [us] to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Isaac AND Ishmael came together to bury their father

What was their relationship like? The last we read was about Ishmael, who was a bit older than Isaac, mocking him, making fun of him. Basically a teenager bullying a toddler.

Interesting to me that Isaac lives in the area that Hagar, Ishmael's mom, had fled and cried out to God

:12-18**A reminder that Hagar was and Ishmael was part Egyptian****Interesting, 12 princes and nations**

Almost a bit of shared destiny with the 12 tribes of Israel (Jacob)

Again, the flesh can imitate the promise, or even appear to be the promise fulfilled, but it always falls apart under further investigation

Shur - right side of the right finger of the red sea

Havilah - area of modern day Kuwait

:19-26

40 when he got married.

I thought i was old being 30 ½.

I did some digging, and Rebekah was young, perhaps 13 or so, hence why she had a nurse go with her.

Quite controversial.

Especially in our culture, in our day and age. I'm not sending my pre-teen or teenage daughter to marry some 40 year old. Sick - because of the motives today.

Some cultures and religions still want or accept child brides.

Trafficking. Agape Int'l Ministries

Gives a little different light to the last chapter. But again, she went willingly, and it was obviously **God's design at this time and for these people. We can ask him about it in heaven.**

But, young marriages, age 13 in an agrarian society or a nomadic culture? No high school, no college, no extending childhood into your 30's...you're working by then.

Isaac pleaded with the Lord for Rebekah

We tend to see barren women crying out to God in scripture, but here we see her husband pleading for her.

How important it is to pray for our wives. Both that God would bring us a wife before we know her or are married and for her after.

1Pe 3:7 NKJV - Husbands, likewise, dwell with [them] with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as [being] heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Husband, are your prayers hindered? Is there a wall between you and God?

Well, how's your relationship with your wife? Do you need to fix it?

I used to pray for my future wife. I knew God knew who she was even if I didn't.

It took 20 years from their marriage until the birth of Jacob and Esau

Pregnancy problems

Rebekah didn't know what was going on

They didn't have ultrasound to see the boys boxing in her belly

Ash and all the kids carrying differently and acting differently in her womb

Different kicks. Different positions.

I wonder if we'd hear more from the Lord about things if we prayed BEFORE going to the doctor? Not that we shouldn't go to the doctor, pray then go, but I think we're missing a huge spiritual insight from the Lord sometimes because we're too dependent on our society, technology and resources **first** instead of **seeking Him first**.

God answers:

Gen 25:23 NKJV - 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."

Indeed, there were twins. They had no way of knowing there was two.

My former Creative Director was an identical twin...parents didn't know until he and his brother were born.

We like the surprise of if it's a boy or a girl...I think I'd like to know if there would be two of them, especially for my first kids! Having your first is quite the learning experience, let alone two at once.

DGC - "Jewish legends say Jacob and Esau tried to kill each other in the womb. Also, every time Rebekah went near an idol's altar, Esau would get excited in the womb, and when she would go near a place where the Lord was worshipped, Jacob would get excited."

Ash was pregnant with Mia and was on the worship team

Mia would move around but get calm when worship was going on

When the music stopped, Mia would jump all around until the next song came on

Mia loves to sing all the time and make her own songs

The first, Esau “hairy”

All red and hairy ALL OVER

Wiki Hypertrichosis is an abnormal amount of hair growth over the body.[1][2] The two distinct types of hypertrichosis are generalized hypertrichosis, which occurs over the entire body, and localized hypertrichosis, which is restricted to a certain area.[1] Hypertrichosis can be either congenital (present at birth) or acquired later in life.

Jacob came second grabbing Esau’s heel.

“heel holder” or “supplanter” one who wrongfully or illegally seizes and holds the place of another, talking of a government overthrow

We’ll read in a minute how this comes to pass in their lives

Interesting because the world was ours, Satan supplanted us as the rulers of this world, but God would send a promised one through a line who would supplant the false government of flesh and sin with one of Spirit and righteousness

Jacob David

Isaac was 60. Imagine having twin boys at 60? I have one energetic and wonderful son in my late 30’s and I want more strength to run around with him. But at 60?

:27-34

Esau was a skillful hunter, an outdoorsman

Jacob was a homebody

We’ve got the rough and tough jock. The braun. Esau

We’ve got the intellectual chef. The brain. Jacob

Some try to pass of Jacob as effeminate for the term mild, but the term has more to do with wholeness. Being well rounded.

I didn’t learn a lot about working on cars, tools, guns or outdoor things as a kid - although I was always interested in it. For the past 10 or so years I’m getting more well rounded in that regard. Although my hands are still too soft from working with computers daily.

Isaac and Rebekah had favorites

Never a good idea as a parent. In the flesh it's easy to go that route. Especially if one is more like you or more like your spouse.

It will always hurt all of the children.

Jacob looks like my wife, but he's still my boy! As he grows I'm finding more and more of me inside of his heart. I love it.

Mia is like me in a lot of ways and her mom, too
Elisha is like me in a lot of ways, and her mom too

But they're all unique and different. Love your kids equally, but each relationship will be somewhat different.

Isaac loved the meat Esau would bring home.

Mmmm, venison, jerky, steak!

Jacob hung out with his mom, a real mama's boy.

Esau's out hunting, comes home tired and empty handed. A bad day perhaps. Or just too hungry to prepare anything.

I tend to be always too weary to prepare anything. Ash makes it taste so much better. :-)

Interesting that he wants RED stew

Edom - red. His descendents. We'll see they come into play later in scripture as well

Jacob right away asks for his birthright. He's been going for it since the womb.

Maybe Esau was tougher and that's why he got out first.

I'm so hungry I could eat a birthright!

I'm about to die, who cares about a silly ritual, family tradition, piece of paper

What could have been passed off as a joke, a sly attempt at getting it...turns into revealing something deeper. A deal Esau would later regret.

The flesh is always willing to pay a high price to fulfill a small need now.

BUY NOW. PAY LATER. 0% INTEREST FOR 6 MONTHS.

BALLOON PAYMENTS

Yes, Jacob tricked him...but Esau willingly gave it up. For a bowl of stew.

Not so tough or smart as he thought.

Psa 14:1 NKJV - To the Chief Musician. [A Psalm] of David. The fool has said in his heart, "[There is] no God." They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good.

:34

And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; then he ate and drank, arose, and went his way. Thus Esau despised *his* birthright.

Bread and stew of lentils. Just bread and vegetables and spices! What a lighthearted meal! He ate quickly and left. It wasn't even a feast!

A VEGAN MEAL FOR THE MIGHTY HUNTER'S BIRTHRIGHT

A side dish, a winter meal for when food was scarce, but nothing you'd eat during times of plenty

For a birthright

Dgc the birthright involved both a material and a spiritual dynamic. The son of the birthright received a double portion of the inheritance, and he also became the head of the family and the spiritual leader upon the passing of the father.

i. In the case of this family the birthright determined who would inherit the covenant God made with Abraham, the covenant of a land, a nation, and the Messiah.

This is how Esau despised his birthright

Considered to be vile, **worthless**

Just like the stew was worthless

What we trade for our sin shows how much value we put on what we trade for

If you think your used junky car is worth \$10,000 you'll never get a sale

If you put your million dollar mansion on the market for \$25,000 it will sell the second it is listed without inspection.

Don't sell your birthright. Your blessing. Your inheritance. Your family. Your dignity. Your witness for a moment of pleasure. The price and the pain will cost far more to you and those around you.

