

**WHY DID CREATOR GOD CHOOSE JACOB?****GENESIS 25:20-34 & 27:1-41**

25:20 Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. 21 But Rebekah could not have children. So Isaac prayed to Creator God for her. Then God answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant. 23 And God said to Rebekah, "Two nations are inside you. And the older son will serve the younger son – the younger son will rule the older son."

24 Rebekah gave birth to twins. 25 The first boy's name was Esau. 26 Then Esau's brother came out – and the younger brother was grabbing Esau's heel. So the younger brother was named Jacob ("he grabs the heel" or "deceiver"). Isaac was 60 years old when the twins were born.

27 The boys grew up. Esau became a very good hunter – he liked the prairie. But Jacob was a quiet man – he stayed near the tents. 28 Isaac loved Esau, because Isaac liked to eat wild meat. But Rebekah loved Jacob.

**Esau's Bad Decision**

29 One day Jacob was cooking stew – and Esau came back from the prairie – and Esau was very hungry. 30 Esau said to Jacob, "Quick! Give me some stew. I'm very hungry!" 31 Jacob answered, "First, sell your oldest son's inheritance to me." 32 Esau said, "I'm very hungry – so I will die soon! I don't need my inheritance." 33 So Esau sold his inheritance to Jacob. 34 So Esau hated his inheritance – he sold it for a bowl of stew. Then Jacob gave the stew to Esau – and Esau ate it, then stood up and walked away.

**Jacob Cheats His Brother Esau**

27:1 When Isaac was old, his eyes were bad – and he could not see. Isaac said to his oldest son Esau, 2 "I am an old man. Maybe I will die soon. 3 So get your bow and arrows – and go out to the prairie and hunt a wild animal for me. 4 Then make the delicious food that I like to eat. I will eat it – then I will bless you before I die. (You are my oldest son, so I will give you my special blessing – the blessing is about your future.)" 5 So Esau went out to the prairie.

5 But Rebekah was listening – she heard what Isaac said to Esau. 6 So Rebekah said to her son Jacob, 7 "Your father will bless your brother Esau – he will bless Esau before God. 9 So, go and bring me two young goats. I will make some delicious food for your father – I will make food that he loves. 10 Then you take the food to your father. He will eat it – then your father will bless you before he dies."

17 Then she gave the delicious food to Jacob. 25 So Jacob brought the food to his father – and Isaac ate it. 27 Then Isaac blessed Jacob: 28 "God give you much grain and new wine. 29 Nations will serve you and bow down to you. Rule over your brothers – your brothers will bow down to you. People who curse you will be cursed – and people who bless you will be blessed."

30 Isaac finished blessing Jacob, and Jacob left his father. Just then, Esau came in from hunting. 31 Esau also made delicious food – and he brought it to his father. Esau said, “My father, eat my wild meat – then bless me.” 32 Isaac said, “Who are you?” Esau answered, “I am your oldest son Esau.”

33 Then Isaac trembled very hard. And Isaac said, “Who came in before you? I blessed him – and he will certainly be blessed.” [All the special blessing goes to one son.]

34 Then Esau cried a loud, bitter cry, “Bless me – bless me, too, my father!” 35 But Isaac said, “Your brother came and he lied and he took your blessing.”

41 Esau hated Jacob because Jacob got the blessing from his father. Esau said to himself, “My father will die soon. Then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

## CONTENT QUESTIONS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- When did God choose Jacob? (Genesis 25:23)

Had Jacob done anything good or bad?

***Before the twins were born – before the twins did anything good or bad – God said to Rebekah, “The older son will serve the younger son.” So it does not depend on what we do – it depends on God.*** Romans 9:11-12

Why do you think God chose Jacob?

***God says, “I loved Jacob.”*** Malachi 1:2

Who chooses? Do we choose God? Or does God choose us?

***Creator God does whatever he wants – God does what he wants in heaven and on earth.*** Psalm 135:6

***God said, “I will love the person I want to love.”*** Exodus 33:19

***So, it does not depend on what we want – and it does not depend on what we do. But it depends on God’s kindness to us.*** Romans 9:16

***Jesus said, “You did not choose me. But I chose you.”*** John 15:16

So what should we do?

If God can do whatever he wants...  
and if God can choose anyone that he wants...  
how should we respond to God?

***A man prayed to God. The man did not even look up to heaven – but he felt very sad and very sorry. And he said, “God, I am a sinner – please be kind to me.” So God forgave that man – God made him good.*** Luke 18:13-14

***Jesus said, “Whoever comes to me I will never push away.”*** John 6:37

Often, getting married is the same:

A man chooses the woman he wants to marry.  
He chooses her because she is the woman that he wants.  
There are many women in the world, but he focuses on her.  
He is free to choose anyone – but he loves her.  
Hopefully, she is happy to be chosen.  
He could have chosen A or B or C – but he chose her.  
Then she must respond to his choice.  
She doesn’t ask him, “Why didn’t you choose A or B or C or ... ?”

No. She thinks, “He chose me!”  
Hopefully she is happy to be chosen by him – and says yes.

We are Jesus Christ’s bride – if we believe in Jesus.

***Like a bridegroom is very happy about his bride, God is very happy about you.*** Isaiah 62:5

***You are engaged to one husband – he is Jesus Christ. So you must be pure.*** 2 Corinthians 11:2

- What did Esau sell? (Genesis 25:33)
- Why did he sell his inheritance? (verses 32 & 34)
- What did Esau sell his inheritance for? (verse 34)

What do you think of Esau’s character?

***Do not be like Esau – he was evil – he did not follow God. Esau was the oldest son, but he sold his inheritance for one bowl of stew.*** Hebrew 12:16

Why was it bad to sell his inheritance?

What should we do with our inheritance from God?

***You believe in Jesus Christ, so you are God’s sons.*** Galatians 3:26

***16We are God’s children. 17So we will inherit – we will inherit from God – and we will inherit with Jesus Christ.*** Romans 8:16-17

***1, 5Creator God said, “I am making everything new – a New Heaven and a New Earth. 7You will inherit all this – and I will be your God, and you will be my son. You will inherit all this if you have victory”...56-57over sin and death through Jesus Christ.***

Revelation 21:1, 5, 7 ... 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

Jacob did a very bad thing. But will God change his plan (Genesis 25:23)?  
Will God’s love for Jacob change?

Over 1000 years later, God still says:

***I chose Jacob.*** Isaiah 41:8

What is God’s promise to us forever – if we believe in Jesus?

***Nothing in heaven and earth can separate us from God’s love – this love is in Jesus Christ.*** Romans 8:39