

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
FEBRUARY 8, 2023
GENESIS 27:42FF

INTRODUCTION:

1. Jacob and Esau grew up in a dysfunctional household with Isaac favoring Esau and Rebekah favoring Jacob. This created sibling rivalry and sinful behavior. (Gen. 25.28; 27.36)
2. Esau did not take responsibility for his own actions but blamed his brother and intended to exact revenge for what Jacob had done. (Gen. 27.41)
3. Both his mother and father send Jacob away for different reasons.

I. TWO REASONS FOR JACOB'S DEPARTURE

- A. Jacob was sent away because of his brother's anger. (Gen. 27.42-45)
 1. **GENESIS 27.42:** *"And the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah."*
 - a) Esau was determined to kill Jacob after his father died. (Gen. 27.41)
 - b) Isaac died at least twenty years later the age of 180. (Gen. 35.28,29,18; cf. 31.41)
 2. **GENESIS 27.43:** *"Now therefore...flee to my brother Laban in Haran."*
 - a) Haran is a city within the region of Padan Aram. (Gen. 28.5)
 - b) Jacob traveled from Beersheba. (Gen. 26.23; 28.10)
 - c) Haran is where Abraham and his family originated. (Gen. 11.31,32; 12.1,4)
 3. **GENESIS 27.44,45:** *"stay with him a few days, until your brother's fury turns away."*
- B. Jacob was sent away to find a wife. (Gen. 27.46-28.5)
 1. **GENESIS 27.46:** Rebekah was *"weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth"* and did not want Jacob to marry the women of Canaan.
 - a) Esau had married the daughters of Heth which *"were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah"* (Gen. 26.34,35; cf. 23.5).
 - b) Why was Esau's choice of spouse grievous to his parents? (Deut. 7.1-4; 9.4; 20.18)
 2. **GENESIS 28.1-5:** Isaac *"charged Jacob"* to *"take for yourself a wife from there of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother"* (cf. Gen. 24.1-4,15,29)

II. TWO LESSONS OF APPLICATION

- A. Separation is sometimes the best solution for dealing with anger.
 1. We are called to be peacemakers. (Matt. 5.9; Rom. 12.17-21; 14.19)
 2. Communication is the key to resolving conflict. (Matt. 5.21-24; 18.15)
 3. When anger clouds our judgment, it is often best to table the issue and separate.
 - a) Did it work for Jacob and Esau? (Gen. 33.4; 29.28,29; 31.41)
 - b) Because of a dispute, Paul and Barnabas separated. (Acts 15.36-41; 2 Tim. 4.11)
- B. There is a danger in marrying someone whose influence can draw us away from God.
 1. How do others negatively influence us away from God?
 - a) By engaging in immorality. (Deut. 18.9-14)
 - b) By worshipping God unacceptably. (Deut. 12.30,31)
 - c) By developing wrong priorities. (1 Kings 11.1,2; cf. Col. 3.5)
 2. In the New Testament, it is not sinful to marry an unbeliever.
 - a) Relationships with unbelievers are not forbidden. (1 Cor. 5.9,10; 7.12,13; 10.27-30)
 - b) We are to be a positive influence on them. (1 Pet. 2.12; 3.1,2)