

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
FEBRUARY 1, 2023
GENESIS 27:30-40

INTRODUCTION:

1. After an Oscar winning performance and help from his mother, Jacob fooled his father and received the blessing that was intended for Esau. (Gen. 27.27-29)
 - a) Jacob was blessed with the promise of a fertile land. (Gen. 27.28; Deut. 6.3; 33.13)
 - b) Jacob was blessed with the promise of dominion over the nations. (Gen. 27.29)
 - c) Compare this with the promise given to Abraham. (Gen. 12.1-3; 28.2-4)
2. Though we may try to help God or work against Him, the promises of God will never fail.

I. THE CERTAINTY OF GOD'S PROMISES

- A. Isaac tried to subvert the promise of God. (Gen. 27.30-33)
 1. **GENESIS 27.30,31:** *"as soon as Isaac finished blessing Jacob..."* (cf. v. 21)
 2. **GENESIS 27.32:** *"And his father Isaac said, 'Who are you?'"*
 3. **GENESIS 27.33:** *"Then Isaac trembled exceedingly"*
 - a) Trembled (harad): "panic, fear, terror, horror" [Mouce]
 - b) Why did Isaac have such a strong reaction? (Gen. 25.28; 27.1)
 4. Though Isaac knew the promise of God, he still attempted to bless Esau. (Gen. 25.23)
- B. Esau tried to change the promise of God. (Gen. 27.34-38)
 1. **GENESIS 27.34,35:** *"he cried with an exceedingly great and bitter cry."* (Heb. 12.17)
 2. **GENESIS 27.36:** *"Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times"* The name "Jacob" carries a dual meaning. (Gen. 25.26).
 3. Instead of taking personal responsibility, we place blame for our circumstances.
 - a) The blame game is as old as humanity. (Gen. 3.9-13)
 - b) Aaron blamed the people for the golden calf. (Ex. 32.21-24)
 - c) Saul blamed the people for sparing King Agag. (1 Sam. 15.13-15)
 - d) Everyone will be held accountable for their own actions. (Ezek. 18.20; Rom. 2.5-11)
 4. Yet the promise of God could not be changed. (Gen. 27.37,38)
- C. The promises of God, though not a blessing, given to Esau. (Gen. 27.39,40; Heb. 11.20)
 1. **GENESIS 27.39:** *"Behold, your dwelling shall be of the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above."* Literally, *"away from the fatness of the earth"* [ESV]
 2. **GENESIS 27.40:** *"By your sword, you shall live..."* The relationship between Israel and Edom was one of servitude, revolt, and reconquer. (1 Sam. 14.47; 2 Sam 8.14)

II. THE PROMISES OF GOD GIVES US HOPE

- A. Though man may try, he cannot fight against God.
 1. The gospel was spread and the church grew in spite of those who attempted to stop it.
 - a) **ACTS 5.33-39:** *"but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it."*
 - b) **ACTS 8.1-4:** During a time of great persecution, *"those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word."*
 - c) **ACTS 9.5:** Though Saul attempted to destroy the church, *"it is hard for you to kick against the goads"*
 2. Our attitude must be, *"Not as I will, but as You will"* (Matt. 26.39; James 4.13-17)
- B. Knowing the promises of God, we have the hope of heaven. (Titus 1.2; 1 John 5.13)