**Genesis 27: Jacob’s Deception**

***“When Isaac was so old that his eyesight had failed him, he called his older son Esau and said to him, ‘My son!’ ‘Here I am!’ he replied. Isaac then said, ‘Now I have grown old. I do not know when I might die. So now taking your hunting gear – your quiver and your bow – and go out to the open country to hunt some game for me. Then prepare for me a dish in the way I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die.”*** *(Genesis 27:1-4)*

* Isaac believed he was at the point of death. Isaac wanted to give the blessing to Esau and not Jacob.
* Jacob desired the blessing for he knew that with the blessing would come the right to inheritance.
* With Isaac’s blessing would also come God’s blessing.
* Genesis 25:23 advises that when Esau and Jacob were struggling in Rebekah’s womb God had chosen the younger brother.
* In Genesis 25:33, Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for lentil stew. His birthright had no value to him in light of his hunger.
* In Genesis 26:34-35, Esau marries two Hittite women. Abraham’s descendants were not to marry the Canaanites.

***“Rebekah had been listening while Isaac was speaking to his son Esau. So when Esau went out into the open country to hunt some game for his father. Rebekah said to her son Jacob, ‘I heard your father tell your brother Esau, ‘Bring me some game and prepare a dish for me to eat, that I may bless you with the Lord’s approval before I die.’ Now, my son, obey me in what I am about to order you. Go to the flock and bring me two choice young goats so that with these I might prepare a dish for your father in the way he likes. Then bring it to your father to eat, that he may bless you before he dies.’”*** *(Genesis 27:5-10)*

* It was not necessary for Rebekah to practice deception for Jacob to receive the blessing. In Genesis 25:23, God told Rebekah that the older son will serve the younger brother. God had already chosen Jacob to receive the blessing over Esau while they were both in Rebekah’s womb.

***“So Jacob went and got them and brought them to his mother, and she prepared a dish in the way his father liked. Rebekah then took the best clothes of her older son Esau that she had in the house, and gave them to her younger son Jacob to wear; and with the goatskin she covered up his hands and the hairless part of his neck. Then she gave her son Jacob the dish and the bread she had prepared.”*** *(Genesis 27:14-17)*

* Rebekah and Jacob practice deception to have Isaac bless Jacob as opposed to Esau.
* Esau had proved himself unworthy to receive the blessing in that he had sold his birthright for a bowl of lentil stew and had married two Canaanite women.
* *“Make no mistake: God is not mocked, for a person will only reap what he sows,”* (Galatians 6:7)
* Before Esau and Jacob were born God had chosen Jacob to receive the birthright. Jacob sowed deception and would reap deception.
* His uncle Laban would deceive him in having Jacob marry Leah instead of Rachel.
* His own sons would deceive him in telling him that his son Joseph was devoured by a wild beast when they sold him into slavery.
* The prophet Hosea was of the opinion that Jacob had done something he should be sorry for.
* Jacob prefigures the people of Israel whom the prophet calls to repentance. (Hosea 12:37)

***“So now my son, obey me: flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran, and stay a way with him until your brother’s fury subsides – until your brother’s anger against you subsides and he forgets what you did to him.*** *(Genesis 27:43-45)*

* Unlike Esau, Jacob obeys his parent’s instruction. The Abrahamic Covenant forbid Isaac’s descendants from intermarrying with the Canaanites.
* In Genesis 26:36, Esau married two Hittite women. Esau was unworthy of the blessing for he had no regard for the covenant of his birthright.

The Navarre Bible; Pentateuch; Genesis 27; Scepter Publishers; New York; 1986

[Enduring Word Bible Commentary Genesis Chapter 27](https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/genesis-27/)

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