

Jacob Tricks Isaac

MEMORY VERSE: And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed. Genesis 26:4

SCRIPTURES: Genesis 27:1-40

AIM: To see that God's chosen family is far from perfect, and in need of a Savior just like ALL of humanity.

When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see, he called for **Esau** his older son.

Isaac said, "I am now, and it's time to give you my blessing. Go hunt some wild game and prepare it the way I like it. And I will bless you."

Now Rebekah overheard this, and she wanted Jacob to receive the blessing. So she made a plan to deceive her husband Isaac. Her plan was for Jacob to pretend to be Esau. So she prepared a tasty meal just the way Isaac liked it, and told Jacob to take it to his father.

Jacob objected because he knew that Isaac wouldn't be easily fooled. Esau was a hairy man and Jacob wasn't. So Rebekah covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins. Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made.

He went to his father and said, "My father." "Yes, my son," he answered. "Who is it?"

Jacob lied. He said to his father, "I am **Esau** your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game so that you may give me your blessing."

Isaac asked his son, "How did you find it so quickly, my son?"

Jacob lied a second time. "**The LORD your God** gave me success," he replied. Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son **Esau** or not."

Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of **Esau**." He did not recognize him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother **Esau**; so he blessed him. "Are you really my son **Esau**?" he asked.

Jacob lied a third time. "I am," he replied.

Then Isaac enjoyed the meal, then blessed Jacob.

He said, "May God give you of heaven's dew and of earth's richness-- an abundance of grain and new wine.

May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed."

Very soon after, Esau returned with the meal he prepared for his father. "My father, sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing."

His father Isaac asked him, "Who are you?" "I am your son," he answered, "your firstborn, Esau."

Isaac trembled violently and said, "Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him--and indeed he will be blessed!"

When Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me--me too, my father!" But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing."

Esau said, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!" Then he asked, "Haven't you reserved any blessing for me?"

His father Isaac answered him, "Your dwelling will be away from the earth's richness, away from the dew of heaven above. You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. But when you grow restless, you will throw his yoke from off your neck."

Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

Rebekah overheard this, so she sent Jacob away for his safety. It was the last time Rebekah and Jacob ever saw each other, and Jacob lived in fear of Esau for many years.