



## Lesson 16: Jacob tricks Esau

### *Scriptural Basis:*



Genesis 27

### *Overview:*

Rebekah helps Jacob deceive Isaac by preparing a meal, and dressing Jacob in goat skin and Esau's clothes to fool Isaac into giving Jacob the blessing meant for Esau. Jacob lies three times to his father about his identity in order to fool him, and succeeds in stealing his brother's blessing.

### *Things to consider:*

All of Isaac's family display the opposite of Godly behavior in this story:

- Isaac didn't seem to want to obey God's plan that Jacob was to carry forward God's promise of a great nation
- Rebekah didn't trust that God would make Jacob greater than his brother
- Esau was reckless in his stewardship of his birthright and even in marrying Hittites
- Jacob lied three times to trick his father into giving him the blessing

Despite these grievous actions, God's promise made to Abraham and reconfirmed to Isaac remained that he was going to make a great nation of Jacob. Our memory verse for this week states why: "And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed."

Though God showed much grace in upholding His promise to Isaac, the painful consequences of sin are apparent in this story:

- There was great division in Isaac's household
- After the the deception, Jacob had to flee for his life. Jacob and Rebekah never saw each other again
- Esau lived in rebellion and with hatred in his heart for many years.

### *The gospel in the story:*



The bad news that we (all mankind) is in need of a savior, and God is our only hope. This message is crystal clear in this story, as we see strife and division in God's chosen family. It is clear from the actions of all (Isaac, Rebekah and sons) that no one earned the distinction of being the one family on the planet chosen for carrying forward God's plan of salvation on their own merits. Only God could make good come out of that! God's plan of salvation for all would come through that family not on their merits, but on HIS. And that is good news for all.

## *Bible Study for Preparation:*



Read Genesis 27. Consider the brokenness and division that must have existed in Isaac's household, which gives us a clear picture of the human condition. Thank God that He has provided redemption from the slavery of sin through Jesus' death on the cross. And let that be your motivation for striving for a Godly household in your life.

## *Teaching the lesson:*

- A: Review – Lesson 15 – God provides for Isaac through King Abimalech during a famine
- B: Bible verse memory activity
  - C. Story
- D. Additional activity