

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of June 26, 2022

## Now Esau Hated Jacob

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from Genesis 27:30-46

<sup>30</sup> As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, when Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his hunting. <sup>31</sup> He also prepared delicious food and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, "Let my father arise and eat of his son's game, that you may bless me." 32 His father Isaac said to him, "Who are you?" He answered, "I am your son, your firstborn, Esau." 33 Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, "Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed." <sup>34</sup> As soon as Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!" <sup>35</sup> But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing." <sup>36</sup> Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?" 37 Isaac answered and said to Esau, "Behold, I have made him lord over you, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?" 38 Esau said to his father, "Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father." And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

<sup>39</sup> Then Isaac his father answered and said to him:

"Behold, away from the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be,

and away from the dew of heaven on high.

<sup>40</sup> By your sword you shall live,

and you shall serve your brother;

but when you grow restless

you shall break his yoke from your neck."

<sup>41</sup> Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob." <sup>42</sup> But the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son and said to him, "Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself about you by planning to kill you. <sup>43</sup> Now therefore, my son, obey my voice. Arise, flee to Laban my brother in Haran <sup>44</sup> and stay with him a while, until your brother's fury turns away— <sup>45</sup> until your brother's anger turns away from you, and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will send and bring you from there. Why should I be bereft of you both in one day?"

<sup>46</sup> Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I loathe my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women like these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?"

- Have you ever seen a charade exposed for what it was? What was that like?
- Verses 30-38 detail the moment when Jacob's deception becomes clear. How would you describe the emotions in Isaac's household at this moment?
- To better understand the gravity and nature of the blessing, read <u>Numbers 23:19-20</u>. How do we see the gravity of this situation begin to dawn on Isaac?
- How does this tragic conclusion lead each family member to see and feel the consequences of their sin?
  - o **Isaac**:
  - o Rebekah:
  - o Esau:
  - o Jacob:
- How is it that such an **awful plan ends up fulfilling God's purposes** stated back in <u>Genesis 25:23</u>?
- Every member of this family has treated **God's blessing as a** commodity rather than something intended to affirm God's promise. What are ways we are prone to the same sin of seeking blessings against knowing God?
- Betrayal, pride, and jealousy breed hatred. Yet, consider how the Cross of Christ is the supreme example of God using humanity's rebellion to accomplish the forgiveness of their rebellion. We sought to crucify Jesus, but God was atoning for our sin and conquering death. Read <u>Genesis 50:20</u> and <u>Acts</u> <u>5:30-31</u> to learn more about God's greater purposes. What does tell you about our God?
- What implications does this have for the unfair and unjust things that happen in our lives?
- Jesus is the Redeemer. He is greater than our sin, our strategies, and our suffering. Repent and pray together in light of this week's passage.

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