

Genesis 27:1-46 **Esau, Jacob & The Blessing**

¹ "Now it came to pass, when Isaac was old and his eyes were so dim that he could not see, that he called Esau his older son and said to him, "My son." And he answered him, "Here I am." ² Then he said, "Behold now, I am old. I do not know the day of my death. ³ Now therefore, please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me. ⁴ And make me savory food, such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die."

⁵ Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt game and to bring it. ⁶ So Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, "Indeed I heard your father speak to Esau your brother, saying, ⁷ 'Bring me game and make savory food for me, that I may eat it and bless you in the presence of the LORD before my death.' ⁸ "Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to what I command you. ⁹ Go now to the flock and bring me from there two choice kids of the goats, and I will make savory food from them for your father, such as he loves. ¹⁰ Then you shall take it to your father, that he may eat it, and that he may bless you before his death." ¹¹ And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "Look, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth-skinned man. ¹² Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be a deceiver to him; and I shall bring a curse on myself and not a blessing." ¹³ But his mother said to him, "Let your curse be on me, my son; only obey my voice, and go, get them for me." ¹⁴ And he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and his mother made savory food, such as his father loved. ¹⁵ Then Rebekah took the choice clothes of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son. ¹⁶ And she put the skins of the kids of the goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. ¹⁷ Then she gave the savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

¹⁸ So he went to his father and said, "My father." And he said, "Here I am. Who are you, my son?" ¹⁹ Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn; I have done just as you told me; please arise, sit and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me." ²⁰ But Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?" And he said, "Because the LORD your God brought it to me." ²¹ Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not." ²² So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." ²³ And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him. ²⁴ Then he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He said, "I am." ²⁵ He said, "Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's game, so that my soul may bless you." So he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank. ²⁶ Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come near now and kiss me, my son." ²⁷ And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said:

"Surely, the smell of my son Is like the smell of a field Which the LORD has blessed. ²⁸ Therefore may God give you Of the dew of heaven, Of the fatness of the earth, And plenty of grain and wine. ²⁹ Let peoples serve you, And nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren, And let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, And blessed be those who bless you!"

³⁰ Now it happened, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, and Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting. ³¹ He also had made savory food, and brought it to his father, and said to his father, "Let my father arise and eat of his son's game, that your soul may bless me." ³² And his father Isaac said to him, "Who are you?" So he said, "I am your son, your firstborn, Esau." ³³ Then Isaac trembled exceedingly, and said,

"Who? Where is the one who hunted game and brought it to me? I ate all of it before you came, and I have blessed him--and indeed he shall be blessed."

34 When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me--me also, O my father!" 35 But he said, "Your brother came with deceit and has taken away your blessing." 36 And Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright, and now look, he has taken away my blessing!" And he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"

37 Then Isaac answered and said to Esau, "Indeed I have made him your master, and all his brethren I have given to him as servants; with grain and wine I have sustained him. What shall I do now for you, my son?" 38 And Esau said to his father, "Have you only one blessing, my father? Bless me--me also, O my father!" And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

39 Then Isaac his father answered and said to him:

"Behold, your dwelling shall be of the fatness of the earth, And of the dew of heaven from above. 40 By your sword you shall live, And you shall serve your brother; And it shall come to pass, When you become restless, That you shall break his yoke from your neck."

41 So Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him, and Esau said in his heart, "The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

42 And the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said to him, "Surely your brother Esau comforts himself concerning you by intending to kill you. 43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice: arise, flee to my brother Laban in Haran. 44 And stay with him a few days, until your brother's fury turns away, 45 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 bereaved also of you both in one day?"

46 And Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth; if Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth, like these who are the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?" NKJV

Facts revealed:

- ✧ Esau took his Canaanite wives at age 40 which would make Isaac 100 years old at the time. [Genesis 26:34]
- ✧ Isaac died when he was 180 years old and both Esau and Jacob were there to bury him. [Genesis 35:28-29]
- ✧ Jacob was in the land of Syria with Laban 20 years after he fled from Esau's threat at the time of the blessing. [Genesis 31:41]
- ✧ At the time of the blessing, Isaac was old and his eye sight was too dim to see his sons faces. His exact age at the time we do not know nor do we know the age of the twins.
- ✧ Esau was a good hunter and able to prepare the kind of food that Isaac loved.
- ✧ The blessing came from the soul of Isaac which could mean that Isaac felt the blessing was to be inspired by God.
- ✧ Rebekah wanted the blessing to be given to Jacob as she remembered the promise God had given her concerning the two boys before their birth:

"Two nations are in your womb,
Two peoples shall be separated from your body;
One people shall be stronger than the other,
And the older shall serve the younger." [Genesis 25:23]

- ✧ Rebekah knew how to prepare the food that Isaac loved and took steps to make sure it was Jacob who would receive the blessing instead of Esau.
- ✧ Esau was described as hairy like a hairy garment at birth. [\[Genesis 25:25, Genesis 27:11\]](#) We know that it was like fur because Isaac could not tell the difference between the feel of Esau and the feel of the soft hair of a goat kid. [\[Genesis 27:21-23\]](#) However, Isaac doubted because of the voice until he smelled the garments of Esau that Jacob was wearing. [\[Genesis 27:27\]](#)
- ✧ The blessing included the blessings of Yehowah in the abundance of the fruit of the earth, authority over peoples, nations, and over his brothers. And, it included the blessing of Abraham that God had pronounced in saying, “Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you.” [\[Genesis 12:3\]](#)
- ✧ When Isaac learned he had blessed Jacob, he said, “I have blessed him and indeed he shall be blessed” indicating that the blessing was from God and would stand even if it was against the intent of Isaac himself.
- ✧ Isaac’s response to Esau’s plea was:
 - “Behold, your dwelling shall be of the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above.
 - By your sword you shall live and you shall serve your brother; [\[2 Samuel 8:13-14 and 1 Chronicles 18:13\]](#)
 - And it shall come to pass, when you become restless, that you shall break his yoke from your neck.” [\[2 Kings 8:16-23, and 2 Chronicles 21:4-10\]](#)
- ✧ Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing and plotted to kill him when his father died.
- ✧ Rebekah heard of the plot and instructed Jacob to flee to her brother Laban in Haran saying that she would send for him when the anger of Esau has turned away.
- ✧ Rebekah then went to Isaac and used their dislike of the wives of Esau and their fear that Jacob would also marry of the daughters of Canaan as her reason for Jacob to leave, but she did not mention Esau’s threat against Jacob.
- ✧ It is interesting that here they are called the daughters of Heth, while in [\[Genesis 26:34-35\]](#) they are called the daughters of Hittites, and in [\[Genesis 28:8\]](#) they are called daughters of Canaan.
- ✧ When Abraham bought the burial cave from Ephron the Hittite, Ephron was living among the sons of Heth in the land of Canaan.