

Walking Through the Word

Creation to Judges (Week 5)

Story: **Two Men and a Birthright** (E: Esau Sells His Birthright and Isaac Blesses Jacob, p 39-42)

Location: **Genesis 25:19-34; Genesis 27:1-42**

Bios & definitions

Isaac: son of Abraham and Sarah; the one “through whom (Abraham’s offspring would be named”); husband of Rebekah; father of Jacob and Esau

Rebekah: granddaughter of Abraham; wife of Isaac; mother of Jacob and Esau after a period of barrenness

Esau: oldest twin born to Isaac and Rebekah; name means “hairy”; also called Edom which means “red”; sold his birthright to his younger twin Jacob for a bowl of stew; the favorite of his father Isaac

Jacob: younger of the twins; name means “he grasps the heel” (figuratively, he deceives); the favorite of his mother Rebekah; fled to Haran after deceptively receiving his father’s blessing and thus his brother’s birthright; married Leah and Rachel and fathered 13 children (12 sons and 1 daughter) with them and their maidservants; one of the most significant people of the Old Testament along with Abraham and Isaac; his name was later changed to “Israel”

Birthright: a special honor given to the firstborn son, it included a double portion of the family inheritance along with the honor of one day becoming the family’s leader. The oldest son could sell his birthright or give it away if he chose, but in so doing would lose both material goods and his leadership position

Story: **Jacob on the Run** (E: Jacob’s Dream, p 43-44)

Location: **Genesis 27:42-29:12**

Bios & definitions

Bethel: the place where Jacob’s dream occurred; located 10 miles north of Jerusalem and 60 miles north of Beersheba; also the place where Abraham made one of his first sacrifices to God when he entered the land; at first it was an important center of worship but later a center of idol worship

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Story: **Jacob Marries and Begins a Family** (E: Laban Tricks Jacob, p 43-47)

Location: **Genesis 29:13-30:43**

Bios & definitions

Laban: brother of Rebekah (mother of Jacob); son of Nahor (brother of Abraham); father of Leah and Rachel; tricked Jacob

Leah: oldest daughter of Laban; first to marry Jacob; mother of 6 of Jacob's sons (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun) and only daughter, Dinah

Rachel: Leah's younger sister; the wife Jacob loved most; mother of Joseph and Benjamin after period of barrenness; like Sarah took matters into own hands and gave her maidservant Bilhah to Jacob to have a child

Zilpah: maidservant of Leah; mother of Gad and Asher

Bilhah: maidservant of Rachel; mother of Dan and Naphtali

Jacob's Sons: the twelve tribes of the Israelites; the tribe of Levi becomes the Aaronic priests and the tribe of Judah contains David and is the line from which Jesus comes