

# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the  
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

## Genesis 25

**19 This is the account of Abraham's son Isaac.**

**Abraham became the father of Isaac,**

**20 and Isaac was forty years old when he married**

**Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean**

**from Paddan-aram and the sister of Laban the**

**Aramean.**

**21 Later, Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his**

**wife, because she was barren. And the LORD heard**

**his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived.**

## Genesis 25

22 But the children inside her struggled with each other, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?”

So Rebekah went to inquire of the LORD,

23 and He declared to her:

“Two nations are in your womb,  
and two peoples from within you will be separated;  
one people will be stronger than the other,  
and the older will serve the younger.”

## Genesis 25

24 When her time came to give birth, there were indeed twins in her womb.

25 The first one came out red, covered with hair like a fur coat; so they named him Esau.

26 After this, his brother came out grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.

And Isaac was sixty years old when the twins were born.

## Genesis 25

**27** When the boys grew up,

**Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the field, but Jacob was a quiet man who stayed at home.**

**28** Because Isaac had a taste for wild game, he loved Esau;

**but Rebekah loved Jacob.**

## Genesis 25

29 One day, while Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the field and was famished.

30 He said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am famished."

(That is why he was also called Edom.)

31 "First sell me your birthright," Jacob replied.

32 "Look," said Esau, "I am about to die, so what good is a birthright to me?"

33 "Swear to me first," Jacob said.

## **Genesis 25**

**So Esau swore to Jacob and sold him the birthright.**

**34 Then Jacob gave some bread and lentil stew to Esau; he ate and drank, and then got up and went away.**

**Thus Esau despised his birthright.**

# The Birth of Jacob and Esau

- **What do we learn about God?**
- **What are the types and shadows?**
- **What are some spiritual principles to believe and apply**



# What do we learn about God?

1. He sovereignly brings about their birth
2. He chooses Jacob by His sovereign mercy

## Romans 9

10 Not only that, but Rebecca's children were conceived by one man, our father Isaac.

11 Yet before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad, in order that God's plan of election might stand,

12 not by works but by Him who calls, she was told, "The older will serve the younger."

13 So it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

[Malachi 1:2,3]

## Romans 9

14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust?

Certainly not!

15 For He says to Moses:

“I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” [Exodus 33:19]

16 So then, it does not depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

# What do we learn about God?

1. He sovereignly brings about their birth
2. He chooses Jacob by His sovereign mercy
3. He uses sinful people to carry out His will
4. He goes against the natural order of things
5. God sovereignly paints amazing pictures with the lives of His people...

...that we are too close to see in this life

**What are the types and shadows?**

## Genesis 25

22 But the children inside her struggled with each other, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?”

So Rebekah went to inquire of the LORD,

23 and He declared to her:

“Two nations are in your womb,  
and two peoples from within you will be separated;  
one people will be stronger than the other,  
and **the older will serve the younger.**”

# What are the types and shadows?

**“The older will serve the younger”**

## **1. The two federal representatives of God**

**What the first Adam despised  
the second Adam (Christ) received**

# 1 Corinthians 15

45 So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being;” the last Adam a life-giving spirit.

46 The spiritual, however, was not first, but the natural, and then the spiritual.

47 The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven.

48 As was the earthly man, so also are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven.

49 And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so also shall we bear the likeness of the heavenly man.



## **1 Peter 2**

**9 But you are a chosen race,  
a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation,  
a people for his own possession,  
that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who  
called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

**10 Once you were not a people, but now you are  
the people of God; once you had not received  
mercy, but now you have received mercy.**

# What are the types and shadows?

“The older will serve the younger”

## 1. The two federal representatives of God

What the first Adam despised  
the second Adam (Christ) received

## 2. The two paths to God

What the Law through Moses could not do  
the Gospel of Jesus Christ accomplished

## 3. The two-fold nature of believers

My firstborn flesh man despises the birthright  
My second-born Spiritual man receives Christ's birthright

## **Galatians 5**

**16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.**

**17 For the flesh craves what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are opposed to each other, so that you do not do what you want.**

# **What are some spiritual principles to believe and apply?**

- 1. The birthright to J&E is like salvation to us**

## Hebrews 12

15 Be careful that no one falls short of the grace of God, so that no root of bitterness will spring up to cause trouble and defile many.

16 See to it that no one is sexually immoral, **or is godless like Esau**, who for a single meal sold his birthright.

# **What are some spiritual principles to believe and apply?**

- 1. The birthright to J&E is like salvation to us**
- 2. The birthright was priceless, unearnable, and a gift to those who are firstborn**
- 3. The birthright is lost by not treasuring it**

## Genesis 25

So Esau swore to Jacob and sold him the birthright.

34 Then Jacob gave some bread and lentil stew to Esau; he ate and drank, and then got up and went away.

**Thus Esau despised his birthright.**

# **What are some spiritual principles to believe and apply?**

**Esau treasured:**

- the temporary over the eternal**
- the physical over the spiritual**
- the immediate over the long term**
- the felt need over the revealed need**



# **What are some spiritual principles to believe and apply?**

- 1. The birthright to J&E is like salvation to us**
- 2. The birthright was priceless, unearnable, and a gift to those who are firstborn**
- 3. The birthright is lost by not treasuring it**
- 4. Your Jacob is stronger than your Esau**

## Hebrews 3

**12 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a wicked heart of unbelief that turns away from the living God.**

**13 But exhort one another daily, as long as it is called today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.**

**14 We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly to the end the assurance we had at first. 15 As it has been said:**

**“Today, if you hear His voice,  
do not harden your hearts, as you did in the rebellion.”**

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