The Blessing of the LORD
Lesson 10
Genesis 26-27

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
November 5, 2017
Genesis

» Major divisions in Genesis
  • Genesis 1-11 – the unsolvable dilemma of the human race
  • Genesis 12-50 – beginning of revelation of salvation

» Two themes of Genesis (and the Bible)
  • Divine perspective: promise of salvation
  • Human perspective: the just shall live by faith

» God’s Covenant
  • Noah – man, animals, earth
  • Abraham – Blessing; great nation; nations; Seed
# Genesis at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOCUS</th>
<th>FOUR EVENTS</th>
<th>FOUR PEOPLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIVISION</td>
<td>CREATION</td>
<td>FALL</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>FERTILE CRESCENT (Eden – Haran)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>c. 2000 years c. 4004 – c. 2166 B.C.</td>
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Genesis 12-50 – 4 Men

- Abraham (12:1-25:18)
  - waiting for the Promise
  - Key revelations: Melchizedek; the LORD will provide
  - A bride for Isaac – stay in the land; be separate

- Isaac (25:19-28:9)
  - Birth of the twins
  - Sojourn in the land of the Philistines
  - Isaac blesses Jacob and sends him away

- Jacob (28:10-36:43)

- Joseph (37:1-50:26) – the move into Egypt
Lesson 10: The Blessing of the LORD

- Sojourn in Gerar – land of the Philistines (26)
  - Repeat famine
  - Repeat of Abraham’s fear for safety in the land
  - Re-appearance of Abimelech and Phicol
  - Repeat dispute over wells
  - Repeat of covenant making

- Isaac blesses Jacob (27)
  - Sequel to sale of birthright (25:29-34)
  - Rebekah and Jacob plot against Isaac and Esau
  - Bookends:
    - Marriages of Esau (26:34-36) – displeasing parents
    - Marriages of Esau (28:6-9) – seeking to please parents
The Sojourn in Gerar (26)

- Famine in the land
  - Reference to Abraham’s experience when he went to Egypt

- The LORD appeared to Isaac
  - Do not go to Egypt
  - Stay in the land – Abimelech and Phicol

- The Promise (26:3-4)
  - Presence of God
  - Blessing
  - Possession of the land
  - Many descendants
  - Blessing to all nations
The Sojourn in Gerar (26)

- The obedience of Abraham
- My charge, My commandments, My statutes, My laws
- Command his children after him (8:20); obeyed My voice (22:18)
- Law of Moses (Deut. 11:1)
- The law written on his heart (New Covenant, Jer 31:31-34)
- Secondary obedience – from a new heart and imputed righteousness
- Promise fulfillment based upon God’s oath to Abraham (26:3)
The Sojourn in Gerar (26)

- Personal fear – despite the Promise of verse 3
- Low risk – “. . . been there a long time . . .” (26:8)
- Discovery of deception by Abimelech
- The blessing of the LORD (v.12-14)
- Expulsion because of envy and fear
Sojourn in the Wadi of Gerar

- The search for water in the wadi (dry river bed)
- The well at Rehoboth – The LORD made room for us
- Beersheba – the place of Abraham’s covenant with Abimelech
- The LORD appeared again to Isaac
  - Repeat promise “for the sake of My servant Abraham”
  - Isaac built an altar and called on the name of the LORD
- The Covenant with Abimelech and Phicol
  - “We see plainly that the LORD has been with you”
  - “You are now the blessed of the LORD”
- The grief of Isaac and Rebekah from Esau’s marriages
Isaac Blesses Jacob (27)

- Isaac and Esau (27:1-4)
- Rebekah and Jacob (27:5-17)
- Isaac and Jacob (27:18-29)
- Isaac and Esau (27:30-40)
- Rebekah and Jacob (27:41-45)
- Rebekah and Isaac (27:46)
- Isaac and Jacob (28:1-5)
Isaac Blesses Jacob (27)

- What did they know?
- Parental preference guided their actions
- Rebekah’s revelation (25:23)
- No revelation to Isaac – reliance on natural ability
  - Taste (25:28; 27:4)
  - Sight (27:1)
  - Touch (27:21, 22)
  - Hearing (27:22)
  - Smell (27:27)
- The outcome was ordained by the LORD
  - Malachi 1:1-5
  - Romans 9:6-13
- No rebuke of Isaac, Rebekah or Jacob
Isaac Blesses Jacob (27)

- Isaac
  - Relied on the flesh to make decision
  - Showed faith in blessing Jacob and Esau (Heb 11:20)
  - Accepted the outcome - “trembled violently” (27:33)

- Rebekah
  - Did not submit to the LORD or pray (cf. 25:22)
  - Did not entreat her husband (cf. 27:46) – see Genesis 48

- Jacob
  - Wanted both the birthright and blessing
  - Did not seem to understand (cf 28:18)
Isaac Blesses Jacob (27)

- Esau
  - God hated Esau (Mal 1:1-5; Rom 9:13)
  - Esau despised his birthright (25:34)
  - An immoral and godless person (Heb 12:16-17)
    - Sold birthright for a single meal
    - Violated oath (25:33)
    - Desired the blessing (afterward) with tears, but rejected by God
    - Intent to kill Jacob shows no concern for the blessing
    - Rejected by God
  - Future story of Esau
    - Esau had “plenty” without Jacob (33:9)
    - Esau later moved away from Canaan (36:6)
Isaac’s Blessing for Jacob (27)

- The dew of heaven, fatness of the earth, grain and new wine
- May peoples and nations serve you
- May your mother’s sons bow down to you
- Cursed be those who curse you and blessed be those who bless you
Isaac’s Blessing for Esau (27)

- Away from the dew of heaven and fatness of earth
- Live by the sword – no divine help
- Serve your brother
- You will break his yoke – future escape from Israel
- Kidner “So Isaac pronounces over Esau the appropriate destiny of the ‘profane person’ – the freedom to live unblessed (39) and untamed (40).”
Lessons from Isaac

- We have this treasure in earthen vessels (2 Cor. 4:7)
- The righteousness of God, from faith to faith (Rom 1:17)
- God is not a respector of persons