



THE GOOD
AND THE BAD
AND THE UGLY

CHARACTER STUDIES

Genesis 26:34-35

OPENING

³⁴When Esau was forty years old, he took as his wives Judith daughter of Beerli the Hethite, and Basemath daughter of Elon the Hethite. ³⁵They made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)



Genesis 27:1-5a

SCENE 1

¹ When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could not see, he called his older son Esau and said to him, "My son."

And he answered, "Here I am."

² He said, "Look, I am old and do not know the day of my death. ³ So now take your hunting gear, your quiver and bow, and go out in the field to hunt some game for me. ⁴ Then make me a delicious meal that I love and bring it to me to eat, so that I can bless you before I die."

^{5a} Now Rebekah was listening to what Isaac said to his son Esau.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)



Genesis 27:6-17

SCENE 2

^{5b}So while Esau went to the field to hunt some game to bring in, ⁶Rebekah said to her son Jacob, "Listen! I heard your father talking with your brother Esau. He said, ⁷'Bring me game and make a delicious meal for me to eat so that I can bless you in the Lord's presence before I die.' ⁸Now, my son, listen to me and do what I tell you. ⁹Go to the flock and bring me two choice young goats, and I will make them into a delicious meal for your father—the kind he loves. ¹⁰Then take it to your father to eat so that he may bless you before he dies."

BAD

Genesis 27:6-17

SCENE 2

¹¹Jacob answered Rebekah his mother, "Look, my brother Esau is a hairy man, but I am a man with smooth skin.

¹²Suppose my father touches me. Then I will be revealed to him as a deceiver and bring a curse rather than a blessing on myself."

¹³His mother said to him, "Your curse be on me, my son. Just obey me and go get them for me."



Genesis 27:6-17

SCENE 2

¹⁴So he went and got the goats and brought them to his mother, and his mother made the delicious food his father loved. ¹⁵Then Rebekah took the best clothes of her older son Esau, which were in the house, and had her younger son Jacob wear them. ¹⁶She put the skins of the young goats on his hands and the smooth part of his neck.

¹⁷Then she handed the delicious food and the bread she had made to her son Jacob.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)
3. Jacob's Deception (27:18-29)



Genesis 27:18-29

SCENE 3

¹⁸When he came to his father, he said, "My father."

And he answered, "Here I am. Who are you, my son?"

¹⁹Jacob replied to his father, "I am Esau, your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game so that you may bless me."

²⁰But Isaac said to his son, "How did you ever find it so quickly, my son?"

He replied, "Because the Lord your God made it happen for me."

²¹Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come closer so I can touch you, my son. Are you really my son Esau or not?"

THE BAD

Genesis 27:18-29

SCENE 3

²²So Jacob came closer to his father Isaac. When he touched him, he said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." ²³He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; so he blessed him. ²⁴Again he asked, "Are you really my son Esau?"

And he replied, "I am."



Genesis 27:18-29.

SCENE 3

²⁵Then he said, "Bring it closer to me, and let me eat some of my son's game so that I can bless you." Jacob brought it closer to him, and he ate; he brought him wine, and he drank.

²⁶Then his father Isaac said to him, "Please come closer and kiss me, my son." ²⁷So he came closer and kissed him. When Isaac smelled his clothes, he blessed him and said:



Genesis 27:18-29

Ah, the smell of my son
is like the smell of a field
that the Lord has blessed.

28 May God give to you—
from the dew of the sky
and from the richness of the land—
an abundance of grain and new
wine.

SCENE 3

29 May peoples serve you
and nations bow in worship to you.

Be master over your relatives;
may your mother's sons bow in
worship to you.

Those who curse you will be cursed,
and those who bless you will be
blessed.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)
3. Jacob's Deception (27:18-29)
4. Esau's Tragedy (27:30-40)



Genesis 27:30-40

SCENE 4

³⁰As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob and Jacob had left the presence of his father Isaac, his brother Esau arrived from his hunting. ³¹He had also made some delicious food and brought it to his father. He said to his father, "Let my father get up and eat some of his son's game, so that you may bless me."

³²But his father Isaac said to him, "Who are you?" He answered, "I am Esau your firstborn son."



Genesis 27:30-40

SCENE 4

³³Isaac began to tremble uncontrollably. "Who was it then," he said, "who hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it all before you came in, and I blessed him. Indeed, he will be blessed!"

³⁴When Esau heard his father's words, he cried out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me too, my father!"

³⁵But he replied, "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing."



Genesis 27:30-40

SCENE 4

³⁶So he said, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob?, For he has cheated me twice now. He took my birthright, and look, now he has taken my blessing." Then he asked, "Haven't you saved a blessing for me?"

³⁷But Isaac answered Esau, "Look, I have made him a master over you, have given him all of his relatives as his servants, and have sustained him with grain and new wine. What then can I do for you, my son?"



Genesis 27:30-40

SCENE 4

³⁸Esau said to his father, "Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!" And Esau wept loudly.



Genesis 27:30-40

SCENE 4

³⁹His father Isaac answered him,
Look, your dwelling place will be
away from the richness of the land,
away from the dew of the sky above.

⁴⁰You will live by your sword,
and you will serve your brother.
But when you rebel,
you will break his yoke from your neck.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)
3. Jacob's Deception (27:18-29)
4. Esau's Tragedy (27:30-40)
5. Wrath of Esau (27:41-46)



Genesis 27:41-46

SCENE 5

⁴¹Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. And Esau determined in his heart, "The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

⁴²When the words of her older son Esau were reported to Rebekah, she summoned her younger son Jacob and said to him, "Listen, your brother Esau is consoling himself by planning to kill you. ⁴³So now, my son, listen to me. Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran,



Genesis 27:41-46

SCENE 5

⁴⁴and stay with him for a few days until your brother's anger subsides- ⁴⁵until your brother's rage turns away from you and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will send for you and bring you back from there. Why should I lose you both in one day?"

⁴⁶So Rebekah said to Isaac, "I'm sick of my life because of these Hethite girls. If Jacob marries someone from around here, like these Hethite girls, what good is my life?"



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)
3. Jacob's Deception (27:18-29)
4. Esau's Tragedy (27:30-40)
5. Wrath of Esau (27:41-46)
6. Flight of Jacob (28:1-5)



Genesis 28:1-5

SCENE 6

¹So Isaac summoned Jacob, blessed him, and commanded him, "Do not marry a Canaanite girl.²Go at once to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel, your mother's father. Marry one of the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother.³May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you so that you become an assembly of peoples.



Genesis 28:1-5

SCENE 6

⁴May God give you and your offspring the blessing of Abraham so that you may possess the land where you live as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham." ⁵So Isaac sent Jacob to Paddan-aram, to Laban son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.



Genesis 28:6-9

CLOSING

⁶Esau noticed that Isaac blessed Jacob and sent him to Paddan-aram to get a wife there. When he blessed him, Isaac commanded Jacob, "Do not marry a Canaanite girl." ⁷And Jacob listened to his father and mother and went to Paddan-aram. ⁸Esau realized that his father Isaac disapproved of the Canaanite women, ⁹so Esau went to Ishmael and married, in addition to his other wives, Mahalath daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son. She was the sister of Nebaioth.



Redemptive Arc



Redemptive Arc

1. GRACE



Character Lessons

- Age alone offers little insulation from the power of our sinful nature. Beware! Finishing well leaves a lasting legacy.



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- God's promises do not give us permission to act deceitfully, manipulatively or dishonestly.



Character Lessons

- Age alone offers little insulation from the power of our sinful nature. Beware! Finishing well leaves a lasting legacy.
- God's promises do not give us permission to act deceitfully, manipulatively or dishonestly.
- God's promises will sometimes set family and friends against us and will always make us a target of the evil one.



Character Lessons

- God's promises and God's peace are meant to go hand in hand. Consequences of living outside of God's will may not cancel His promise, but they can rob of us His peace.



Scenes from Jacob and Esau

1. Isaac's Defiance (27:1-5a)
2. Rebekah's Rebellion (27:5b-17)
3. Jacob's Deception (27:18-29)
4. Esau's Tragedy (27:30-40)
5. Wrath of Esau (27:41-46)
6. Flight of Jacob (28:1-5)
7. Jacob and Esau Reconcile (32 & 33)

BAD



THE BAD

Genesis 32:1-12

SCENE 7

Messengers Sent (1-5)

⁶When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau; he is coming to meet you—and he has four hundred men with him." ⁷Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed; he divided the people with him into two camps, along with the flocks, herds, and camels. ⁸He thought, "If Esau comes to one camp and attacks it, the remaining one can escape."



Genesis 32:1-12

SCENE 7 - PRAYER

⁹Then Jacob said, "God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the Lord who said to me, 'Go back to your land and to your family, and I will cause you to prosper,' ¹⁰I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. Indeed, I crossed over the Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two camps. ¹¹Please rescue me from my brother Esau, for I am afraid of him; otherwise, he may come and attack me, the mothers, and their children. ¹²You have said, 'I will cause you to prosper, and I will make your offspring like the sand of the sea, too numerous to be counted.' "



Genesis 32:1-12

SCENE 7

⁶When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau; he is coming to meet you—and he has four hundred men with him." ⁷Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed; he divided the people with him into two camps, along with the flocks, herds, and camels. ⁸He thought, "If Esau comes to one camp and attacks it, the remaining one can escape."



Genesis 33:1-7

SCENE 7

¹Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming toward him with four hundred men. So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two slave women. ²He put the slaves and their children first, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph last. ³He himself went on ahead and bowed to the ground seven times until he approached his brother.



Genesis 33:1-7

SCENE 7

⁴But Esau ran to meet him, hugged him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. Then they wept. ⁵When Esau looked up and saw the women and children, he asked, "Who are these with you?"

He answered, "The children God has graciously given your servant." ⁶Then the slaves and their children approached him and bowed down. ⁷Leah and her children also approached and bowed down, and then Joseph and Rachel approached and bowed down.



Character Lessons

- God's promises and God's peace are meant to go hand in hand. Consequences of living outside of God's will may not cancel His promise, but they can rob of us His peace.
- No matter how messed up things were where you come from. No matter how bad you have messed things up. With God, reconciliation is possible. That's true for relationships and for salvation!





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