

Genesis 26-27 – 5 December 2019

“Surrendering To What God Has Planned”

Introduction

Isaac, the son of promise, the son of Abraham: the blessings have been passed to him.

Read Gen 17:19 – Covenant transferred to Isaac

But what were the promises that transferred?

Read Gen 17:7-8 -

1. Abraham's family name
2. Promise of a land
3. Promise of a Messiah Son

Read 26:1-5

1. During hardship or famine, we often go into “protection mode”. Defending what we have.
2. We often feel as though we have to “protect” or help God keep His promises.

- a. This is an oxymoron.
 - b. If God promised, can He not provide?
 - c. Instead, the necessity is to simply surrender.
 - d. Live godly and always what may.
3. Notice again the promises transferred from Abraham to Isaac:
- a. Vs 3 – “I will bless u & thy seed” (Family)
 - b. Vs 3 – “I will give these countries” (Assets)
 - c. Vs 4 – “in thy seed..all earth blessed” (Leg)
4. God can make His promises (and great will for your life) come to pass without our sinning to make it happen.
- a. Human conniving & scheming aren’t needed to produce what God has planned.
 - b. Only our simple obedience to God’s loving ways are needed.
 - c. Remember Abraham & Sarah thought they should help God by using Hagar to have a son?
 - i. They just needed to surrender to God’s will
 - ii. Wait patiently for God to bring it to pass

Tonight, thru Isaac, we'll see 3 things that we all need to surrender to God

Chapter 26:6-11 presents the 1st thing we need to surrender to God: Our Family

Read 26:6-7

1. Isaac finds himself committing the same sin as his father. What's the sin? Lying?
 - a. Yes lying, but b/c of his fear of men.
2. When our 'fear of God' and 'fear of man' scale is balanced properly then we'll act in a way that honors God & we let people react how they will.

Read 26:8-11

1. Abimelech is more righteousness than Isaac
2. Couldn't God protect them without the lying?
3. Trust God to protect our families.
 - a. Yes we must protect our family from evil
 - b. But we need to sin in the process

Chapter 26:12-33 presents the 2nd thing we need to surrender to God: Our Assets

Read 26:12-14a

1. Even being a wanderer, Isaac and his clan prospered.
2. He worked hard to preserve an inheritance for his promised descendants to come.
3. What will he do to protect this for later?
 - a. Or will He surrender to God's redirections?

Read 26:14b-18

1. Isaac's lifestyle and very life were under threat
 - a. Wells were not a luxury but a necessity
 - b. He was providing for a small clan of people
2. When strife came, Isaac just left, trusting God would provide.
 - a. Knowing God promised to give land to his seed later, he surrendered instead of fighting
 - b. Didn't get angry & "protect what's his".

3. Notice again vs 18 – Well are necessary for life but they also speak of spiritual sustainment.
 - a. Isaac returned to the life that sustained Abe.
 - b. Allow God to redirect our life-giving supply as needed
 - c. God give and takes away: trust He'll provide the resources and assets needed to fulfill His plan for your life.

Read 26:19-22

1. Isaac would say, the Lord had not made room for him until this 3rd well.
2. He was willing to work and wait, surrendered to God until He provided rest.

Read 26:23-25

1. Patriarch's life epitomized by...
 - a. Abraham=Altars – speaks of sacrifice
 - b. Isaac=Wells – speaks of sustainment
 - c. Jacob=Tents – speaks of sojourning
2. Surrendering to God is built on hope of the future

Read 26:26-33

1. Abilmelech sought peace w/ Isaac b/c of his reputation
2. Thru adversity Isaac didn't strive and sin
3. Thru adversity he surrendered to working hard and letting the Lord direct his steps

And now we see the background of Esau's family in Vs 34-35

Read Vs 34-35

1. Esau breaks the godly tradition of Adam and his grandfather Abraham by being polygamous.
2. Esau also breaks from the belief of his grandfather Abraham that the Hittites (Canaanites) will be judged and they should stay clear of this.
3. His mom Rebekah now feels as though Esau has turned his back upon the promises of God.

Chapter 27 presents the 3rd thing we need to surrender to God: Our Legacy

The plan to get Isaac's blessing for Jacob (Vs 1-13)

Read 27:1-4

1. The blessing (as opposed to a curse) was a special asking of the Lord to do great things.
2. Isaac knew the prophecy the Lord had given unto Rebekah in Gen 25:23 that “the elder shall serve the younger”.
 - a. Isaac wasn't surrendered to God violating this custom.
 - b. Isaac even saw the direction of Esau's life and still wanted to bestow the blessing & promises of Abraham upon Esau.
 - c. Read I Sam 16:7 Man looks on the outward
 - d. Isaac wasn't willing to surrender his legacy to the leading of God's sovereign will

Read 27:5-13

1. The plan is hatched to steal the earthly blessing
2. Could not God give Jacob the blessing instead of Esau?
 - a. Couldn't God delay Esau in the field?
 - b. Couldn't God change Isaac's mind yet?
3. Jacob will sin to receive the earthly blessing of his earthly father, but it's the heavenly blessing of His heavenly Father that he really needs.
 - a. Gen 32 after Jacob is saved, God will bless
 - b. Without the blessing of God, all earthly blessings have no power.
 - i. Earthly blessings are beseeching God to honor the earthly blessing
 - ii. God will honor the earthly blessing that Isaac gives Jacob but only after Jacob is saved.

The act of stealing Isaac's blessing (Vs 14-29)

Read 27:14-29

1. God does not condone nor ask for the lying and deceiving of Rebekah but He does seek her faith in believing that Jacob is the one to be blessed.
 - a. As Rahab the Harlot believed God would conquer Jericho.
2. Isaac allows his senses to overrule what he heard.
 - a. He needed to rely of God's Word to him.
 - b. We need to rely of God's Word to us.
3. If there was any doubt... Jacob will lie and cheat to get what he thinks he is owed.
 - a. Wants all the blessings of his godly heritage...without the godly part.
 - b. Wants all the benefits of his spiritual examples...without the spiritual part.
 - c. Wants to be known as the heir to Abraham...without being like Abraham truly was.

The trickery revealed (Vs 30-38)

Read Vs 30-38

1. They were weeping b/c their plan to defy God's will in His prophecy didn't happen.
2. What they valued didn't agree w/ God's eternal purposes.
3. The greatest growth in the church usually happens when it's under the greatest persecution.
 - a. Thru the wickedness of sinful men, God can still accomplish His purposes.
 - b. Let us not be found fighting against Him

Esau blessed but infuriated, Jacob plans to flee (Vs 39-46)

Read Vs 39-45

1. And so the strife and broken relationships leaving the godly legacy in question.
 - a. Will Jacob even be able to come back to the land of promise?
 - b.
2. All sinners
 - a. Esau – the polygamous, murderer at heart
 - b. Jacob – the liar and thief
 - c. God uses sinners...aren't you glad

Read Vs 46

1. They plan to keep Jacob away from the Canaanites, but it's really motivated by keeping Jacob away from an angry Esau.
2. God accomplishing His will in spite of human sin.

Conclusion –

Today we've seen the necessity to surrender to God for the things He has planned and promised

When you scheme and connive like Jacob to get the blessing, you struggle and have strife in the guilt and shameful relationships.

When you choose to surrender to God's plan and promises like Isaac moving from well to well, you see God work on your behalf and bring peace of conscience and security of relationships.

1. Peace and security for your family
2. Peace and security for your assets
3. Peace and security for your legacy