



THE GRINCH THAT STEALS CHRISTMAS

The Jacob Syndrome of Self

Genesis 32:24-31

Galatians 5:16-17

16. But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

17. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things you please.

*Flesh = man doing life his way instead of believing God and trusting His way

*Flesh is self and self is sin.

1. The Sneaky Way This Grinch Exposes Itself

Genesis 25:21-26

21. And Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.

22. But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is so, why then am I this way?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

23. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb; and two peoples shall be separated from your body; and one people shall be stronger than the other; and the older shall serve the younger."

24. When her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold there were twins in her womb.

25. Now the first came forth red, all over like a hairy garment; and they named him Esau.

26. And afterward his brother came forth with his hand holding on to Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob; and Isaac was sixty years old when she gave birth to them.

Genesis 25:29-34

29. And when Jacob had cooked stew, Esau came in from the field and he was famished;

30. and Esau said to Jacob, "Please let me have a swallow of that red stuff there, for I am famished." Therefore his name was called Edom.

31. But Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright."

32. And Esau said, "Behold, I am about to die; so of what use then is the birthright to me?"

33. And then Jacob said, "First swear to me"; so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.

34. The Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew; and he ate and drank, and rose and went on his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Genesis 27:21-29

21. Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come close, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not."

22. So Jacob came close to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau."

23. And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him.

24. And he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" And he said, "I am."

25. So he said, "Bring it to me, and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you." And he brought it to him, and he ate; he also brought him wine and he drank.

26. Then his father Isaac said to him, "Please come close and kiss me, my son."

27. So he came close and kissed him; and when he smelled the smell of his garments, he blessed him and said, "See, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the Lord has blessed;

28. Now may God give you of the dew of heaven, and of the fatness of the earth, and an abundance of grain and new wine;

29. May peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you; Be master of your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be those who curse you, and blessed be those who bless you."

2. The Stubborn Way of This Grinch

*Only through brokenness and surrender will any of us receive the blessings that are promised to us. (Joshua 1:2-3)

Hosea 12:4

Yes, he wrestled with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought His favor.

3. The Surrendered Heart God Desires



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