



“Here is essential and unforgettable theological theater.” – Kent Hughes

“Our sister, may you become thousands of ten thousands, and may your offspring possess the gate of those who hate him!” – Genesis 24:60

“Why? Because God was teaching his people that the promised blessing through the chosen seed of Abraham could not be accomplished by mere human effort. This is how it had been for Sarah. One thing was very clear after twenty years of barrenness: Rebekah’s barrenness was ended by the direct intervention of God. Rebekah’s womb bore the divinely given seed. Here we see God’s sovereignty begin to visibly rise over the story.” – Kent Hughes

“As a minister, I cannot help remarking that there is hardly any subject on which people seem so tenacious and unable to be challenged on, as they are about their children. I have sometimes been perfectly astonished at the slowness of sensible Christian parents to acknowledge that their own children are at fault, or deserve blame.

There are many people to whom I would far rather speak about their own sins, than to tell them their children had done anything wrong.”

– J.C. Ryle

“...when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad-in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works, but because of him who calls-she was told, ‘The older will serve the younger.’” – Romans 9:10-12

“Certainly, here Paul seems to have caught well the spirit of Genesis. There is no disguising the failures of the chosen line. Noah stumbles. Abraham goes astray more than once, Isaac and Rebekah are partisan. Jacob is at time positively obnoxious, and the author of Genesis does not disguise his disapproval of such conduct. Yet despite all their sinfulness, God’s chosen are preserved and blessed. God’s saving purpose is not thwarted by human weakness, though it may be delayed. God chooses the patriarchs not because they are particularly loveable characters but because of his declared intention that in them all the families of the earth should find blessing. So the patriarchs emerge from Scripture not as lily-white heroes but as real men of flesh and blood. And with them and their failings everyone can identify. And the fact that God was able to use men like Jacob to forward his purposes may shock us, but it should surely encourage us, too, for at times we fall as badly as he did. If God could use him, may he now graciously use us.” – Gordon Wenham

“I believe in the doctrine of election because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons

unknown to me, for I never could find any reason in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love.” – Charles Spurgeon