



# Sermon Highlights

## **God's Sovereign Plan Through Flawed People: Lessons from Jacob and Esau**

### **Sermon Summary:**

This sermon examines Genesis 27:30-28:1, exploring how God works out His sovereign plan despite human scheming and family dysfunction. Through the story of Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Esau, we see a family filled with favoritism, deception, and manipulation, yet God's purposes prevail. The message emphasizes that while God can work through our flaws and mistakes, the best path is always trust and obedience to His revealed will. The sermon demonstrates the doctrine of election working through nations rather than just individuals, showing how God's plan for bringing the Savior into the world continued despite human interference. The key takeaway is that our mistakes do not cause God's plans to fail, but we experience the greatest blessing when we simply submit to God's will rather than trying to help Him accomplish His purposes through our own schemes.

### **Key Points:**

- God works out His sovereign plan even through flawed, scheming people who make poor choices
- Family dysfunction characterized by parental favoritism creates destructive patterns and consequences
- Isaac wrongly attempted to give the blessing to Esau despite knowing God's plan favored Jacob
- Rebekah schemed to ensure Jacob received the blessing, using deception rather than trusting God
- Jacob's concern was not about moral rightness but about getting caught in the deception
- Esau had already devalued his birthright by selling it for a meal, showing he was profane and did not value spiritual things
- The doctrine of election primarily deals with groups and nations rather than individuals

- The conflict between Esau's descendants (Edomites/Arabic peoples) and Jacob's descendants (Jewish people) continues to this day
- Satan works behind the scenes to disrupt God's plan, but never trumps God's sovereignty
- God knows the beginning from the end, while Satan only knows what has happened up to now
- Our mistakes and failures do not derail God's purposes for our lives
- Trust and obedience to God's plan is always the best way to experience His blessing
- We should focus on doing what we know to do today rather than making God's will seem impossible
- Finding God's plan for our lives comes through reading and submitting to His Word

#### **Scripture Reference:**

- Genesis 27:30-28:1 (primary passage)
- Genesis 26:34 (Esau's marriages to pagan women)
- Hebrews 12 (reference to Esau as a fornicator and profane person)
- The Abrahamic covenant blessing: "Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you"

#### **Stories:**

- The account of Isaac preparing to bless Esau with savory food from hunting
- Rebekah overhearing Isaac's instructions and scheming with Jacob to deceive Isaac
- Jacob disguising himself with goat skins to feel hairy like Esau and wearing Esau's clothing
- Isaac's trembling when he discovered he had blessed Jacob instead of Esau
- Esau's bitter weeping when he realized his blessing had been taken
- Esau's threat to kill Jacob after Isaac's death, causing Jacob to flee to Haran
- The consequence that Rebekah would never see her beloved son Jacob again

- Abraham's earlier example of sending his servant back to Haran to find Rebekah as a wife for Isaac from among his own people

- The broader narrative of how these two brothers became the fathers of two nations in perpetual conflict