Reading Moses…Finding Jesus… Torah Portion 6 - Meeting 10/19/26

Luke 24:27 "Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."

Next Meeting: Monday, November 16th at 2pm and at 6pm

Today - Portion 6 – Toldot "Generations" "A record of the generations" Genesis 25:19-28:9

God the Father is in a cosmic chess match with satan – God wins!!

satan is trying to stop the Messiah – Jesus!

Genesis 25:21 – NLT - "Isaac pleaded with the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was unable to have children. The Lord answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins."

We need to plead with God for His promises, and as we plead, we need to remain PATIENT!!!!!

Jacob and Esau weren't just struggling in the womb…they were trying to kill each other literally in the womb!

Genesis 25:23 – "And the Lord told her, "The sons in your womb will become two nations. From the very beginning, the two nations will be rivals. One nation will be stronger than the other; and your older son will serve your younger son."

Genesis 25:26 – "Then the other twin was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. So they named him Jacob."

Jacob is "grasping" Esau's heal for protection.
Jacob is protecting his head and fighting for his life, right before birth.

Jacob's name is Yaakov (יַעֲקֹב) - means "supplanter" or "heel-holder." The name is derived from the Hebrew root 'akev (עָקֵב), which means "heel." Jacob is only called "the deceiver" by one person…and that's Esau.

Genesis 25:27 - "As the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter. He was an outdoorsman, but Jacob had a quiet temperament, preferring to stay at home."

Jacob was worthy… He was in charge of his emotions and his character. He was wholesome and pure. He spent his time immersed in studying the teachings of God.

Esau was impulsive in the moment…living for the moment…impulsive, reckless, shortsighted. He showed contempt for the birthright.

Jacob pursues spiritual things of God….Esau pursues materialistic things and momentary satisfaction.

This is the battle we face daily…the battle of Jacob and Esau within us….the battle of the spiritual and the physical….our sin nature desires the physical….our God nature desires the spiritual.

<u>The Birthright vs The Blessing</u> - The blessing is the promises of God from Abraham to Isaac and now to the child who gets the blessing. This is the most important part of this story. If the seed promise goes to Esau, there is no Messiah…no Jesus…

Was Rebekah disobedient? NO! She was obedient to what God had promised her earlier in this portion.

"Sovereign Reversal" - God is sovereign, and He uses humans to reverse satan's attempts to snuff out the seed of Messiah.

Finding Jesus in Toldot:

- **Jesus would say…That seed that Esau is trying to snuff out – That's ME!!!!**
- **God the Father was working hard in this portion to preserve your salvation!**
- **Matthew 1:1…"This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah" – "Toldot Yeshua HaMashiach"….. Matthew is tying the genealogy of Jesus straight back to this portion.**
- **Isaac receives the promises b/c of Abraham's actions….Isaac receives the promises on the merit of his dad….we receive the promises, not based on our merit….but based on the merit of what Jesus did…not what we did.**
- **Genesis 27:13… where Rebekah told Jacob to trick his father Isaac, we notice that Rebekah says "let the curse fall on me". Jesus let the curse fall on Him for God's will to be done! Rebekah is a foreshadow to Jesus.**

Galatians 3:13 – But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.

Recap

1. **We need to read this story through the lens of the chess match between God and satan… satan is trying to destroy or change the seed of Messiah… God DOES NOT allow that to happen!**
2. **We need to plead with God for His promises, and as we plead, we need to remain PATIENT!!!!!**
3. **The birth story of Jacob and Esau is not about the birth of two children; it's about the birth of two rival nations that are still at war.**
4. **Jacob is grasping Esau's heel for protection…fighting for his life.**
5. **Jacob was a worthy man, in charge of his emotions and his character, and he was wholesome and pure. He was immersed in studying the things of God. Jacob pursues the spiritual things of God.**
6. **Esau lived for the moment…for the physical. He had contempt for the birthright double portion and willingly gave it up for his physical needs at that moment. He was impulsive, reckless, shortsighted. Esau pursues materialistic things and momentary satisfaction.**
7. **Rebekah was obedient to what God had promised her, helping God with His "sovereign reversal" – sometimes, "bad things" happen b/c a Sovereign God needs them to! (Isaac had to go blind…)**
8. **God is working (then and now) to preserve our salvation!!!!!!**
9. **Matthew started his gospel with Toldot – he was tracing the Toldot (the generations) of Jesus all the way back to the this story…the promises of Abraham.**
10. **We receive the promises of God, not on our merit, but on the merit of what Jesus did for us! Jesus bore the curse, the cost, so that we could inherit the blessings of God! Rebekah is a foreshadow to Jesus.**

Next month, November 16th, we'll cover Vayetze… "And he went out" in Genesis 28:10 – 32:3

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