

Sunday June 3rd 2012
The Letter to the Hebrews
Part Forty Seven
Study Questions

1). What are the essential two things upon which Abraham's faith is founded?

a). Abraham has two sons, Ishmael and Isaac, but only one of these will receive the promises – why is that?

b). Read Galatians 4:28-30 – what does this teach us in respect to ourselves?

2). Read Galatians 3:16 – what is significant about the use of the word 'seed'?

a). So, when we now read 'in Isaac your seed shall be called', what do we need to keep in mind?

b). What does Christ being Abraham's Seed mean for both Jews and Christians?

c). Would Abraham have understood this and how would we know?

3). What tangible confirmation is given to Abraham concerning the promise for his descendants through Isaac and Jacob that is pictured at the beginning of Genesis Chapter 25?

4). Heb 11:20 *By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.*

a). What is the basis for Isaac's faith here?

b). What are the 'things to come'?

c). Would Jacob and Esau receive the same blessing? And if not why not?

5). Read Genesis 25:24-27 – what reason does the scripture give for the twins receiving the name Esau and Jacob?

a). What do our verses record about them as they grow?

b). What is said about Esau and what should we understand from this description?

c). What is said about Jacob and what should we understand from this description?

d). So then, in simple terms what should we understand from the character of Esau and the character of Jacob?

e). How is that which is pictured in the character of Esau confirmed through his attitude to his birthright?

f). What is Jacob's attitude towards the rights of the firstborn and why does he have this attitude?

g). What is Esau's name changed to at this point in the Genesis account and what does this name change teach us?

h). So, according to the scripture, exactly what takes place between Jacob and Esau with regards to the birthright?

6). Read Genesis 27:1-12 – what is the reason for Rebekah doing what she does?

a). How could we classify her actions?

b). What does Isaac seem intent on doing and why is it impossible for him to do that?

c). What does this picture for us?

d). What does Jacob's appearance before Isaac in the likeness of his brother picture for us and what scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

e). How does Esau's name change to Edom fit into this picture?

f). Why do you think there is no scriptural condemnation of Rebekah's and Jacob's actions?

g). What must we always keep in mind about God's perspective on the birthright given to the firstborn? Why does He have this perspective?

7). Read Genesis 27:27-29 – Look at v27 closely – what do you make of that which Isaac says in this verse?

- a). What is the content of Isaac's blessing? Who is it for? When is it for?
- b). Where else have we seen a similar theme to that given in v29?

8). Read Genesis 27:32-40 – What happens upon Esau's return?

- a). What does Esau do?
- b). What is Isaac's response?
- c). What does this picture with respect to the Judgment Seat of Christ and what scripture did we look at in connection to this?
- d). Can you think of any other scriptures that would picture this same thing?
- e). What is the blessing that Isaac gives to Esau?
- f). When does this blessing refer to and what does it relate to?
- g). Where in the scripture do we find the account of Jacob's name change?
- h). What is Jacob's name changed to and what does this name mean?
- i). What commentary do you think this gives on the events surrounding Jacob and Esau that we have been studying?