**Family Secrets – Gen 28:8 – 9**

**Focal Truth: Esau hated his parents living in open rebellion against them**

**Observations**

1. **God promised Isaac that the seed of Messiah would come through him - 26:2 – 5**

*The Lord appeared to him and said, do not go down to Egypt stay in the land of which I shall tell you. Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you…*

1. God gave twin sons the younger was the promised one – the older a fleshly one
2. Isaac was a deceiving sinner toward his brother but He repented & believed God
3. Isaac lived by faith: *By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise*
4. Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau by faith; *by faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come*
5. Isaac & Rebekah lived with life - long conflict between their two sons – Jacob & Esau

**Consider**

1. The greatest test of your faith in this world may come from conflict in your home!
2. The greatest test of your faith in your family may come from rebellious & disobedient children

They showed favoritism to the sons

They tried to do God’s will in their own way

1. **Esau was a selfish, sinful man who loved himself more than his family – Gen. 25:32**

*Esau said, what use is the birthright to me…He ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus, Esau despised his birthright*

1. Esau was a fleshly man – he care more about fleshly satisfaction than his family birthright as first born

Heb. 12:16 – *that there be no immortal, or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal*

**He ate & drank and rose and went out! – This is the description of sinful living**

**Consider**

1. Esau is the picture of sinful living – **He ate & drank & went out!**

**He ate & drank & went out** to live for himself with no regard for his family

**He ate & drank & went out** to practice open rebellion against all that his family represented

**He ate & drank & went out** to live in idolatry & rejection of God!

The rich fool said, *soul you have many goods laid up for many years to come, take your ease,* ***eat, drink and be merry*** *– Lk. 12:19*

Rom. 14:17 – *the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit*

1. **Esau married godless women in rebellious hatred of his parents – 26:34 -35; 28:6 -9**

*When Esau was forty years old he married Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and they brought grief to Isaac and Rebekah*

1. The Hittites are the descendants of the Ham – son of Noah
2. The Hittites are sons of Canaan – **the land in which God commanded Isaac to live**
3. Esau married wives from the godless nation of Canaan
4. The godless wives of Esau grieved Isaac & Rebekah – **grieved = bitterness**

1. **The rebellious sinner Esau marries Canaanite women & the daughter of Ishmael his father’s rival brother!**

*Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram to take to himself a wife from there, and that when he blessed him he charged him, saying You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan, and that Jacob had obeyed his father and mother and had gone to Paddan-aram. So, Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan displeased his father Isaac; and Esau went to Ishmael, and married, besides the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth*

1. Esau saw that the godless wives displeased his father so he married his uncle

Ishmael’s daughter

1. Esau rejected his godly family heritage – he love to hurt & grieve his parents!

**Consider**

1. Esau a bitter rebellious son brought bitterness to his parents through his decisions

*Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan displeased his father Isaac, so he went to Ishmael and married the daughter of Ishmael*

1. Esau’s sinful selfishness separated him from God – **Esau was a man who never prayed or lived by faith!**
2. **Esau’s choices to marry godless wives brought deep grief to his parents – 27:46**

*Rebekah said to Isaac, I am tired of living because of the daughters of Heth; if Jacob takes a wife from the daughters of Heth, like these, from the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?*

1. The bitterness of Isaac and Rebekah was a shared bitterness & sadness over Esau’s choices of wives

***I am tired of living - Rebekah says in her grief***

***What good will my life be to me? – Rebekah says in her grief***

1. *The heart knows its own bitterness – Pr. 14:10*
2. *A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him – Pr. 17:25*
3. There are parents today who live with bitterness with their rebellious children yet trust God in their pain – **Isaac is bitter but believing**
4. There are parents today who live with bitterness with their rebellious children who live in their bitterness without trusting God – **Rebekah is bitter & broken**

**Consider**

1. **God accomplishes his purposes in our families even with rebellious, sinful & unrepentant children!**

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. **God’s promised purpose for Messiah to come through Abraham, Isaac & Jacob was accomplished regardless of family sin & resistance**
2. **God commands children – Honor your parents & obey them!**
3. **Children who live in rebellious sin - live in bitterness - causing bitterness to their parents –** Heb. 12:15 – *see to it that no one comes short of the grace of God, that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;*
4. **In these days children’s hateful rebellion toward their parents is great – repent of your disobedience to your parents 2 Tim. 3:2 -** *For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy…*

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**