

Isaac Blesses Jacob

Genesis 27:1 – 28:9

by Don Falkos

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Isaac grew old and feeble and blind. He thought he was going to die. So he sent for his firstborn son, Esau, and said, "Go hunting and prepare the game for me the way I like it. After I have eaten, I will give you my blessing."

Rebekah overheard. She took two young goats and prepared the meat to taste like wild game. She had Jacob dress in some of Esau's clothes. Then she wrapped his arms and covered the back of his neck with the skins of the young goats.

Jacob took the food to his father, identified himself as Esau, and said, "I have brought the food you asked for. Please eat it and then give me your blessing."

Isaac was unsure. He questioned Jacob, touched him, and smelled his clothing. "You sound like Jacob, but you're hairy like Esau, and you smell like Esau."

Isaac ate the meal. It was delicious – just the way he liked it – the way Esau always prepared it. He was convinced. Isaac blessed Jacob.

When Esau came back and brought his father the meal he had prepared, Isaac realized that Jacob had deceived him. But he had given his blessing. There was nothing he could do.

Esau's anger festered, "As soon as my father is dead I will kill my brother, Jacob."

Rebekah heard of his plan. She went to Isaac who agreed that Jacob should go to his mother's homeland and there find a wife for himself from among her relatives.