



Despite Deceptions, God Keeps His Promises
November 11, 2018
Genesis 27:5-10, 18-29

“Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said, ‘The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau’” (Genesis 27:22).

Before Esau and Jacob were born, the LORD told Rebekah that the oldest twin, Esau, would serve his younger brother, Jacob. Later, Esau sold his birthright inheritance as the oldest son to Jacob, but it was not his to sell, it was Isaac’s to give. Isaac loved Esau because Esau was a hunter and brought him game to eat. Rebekah loved Jacob because he stayed home. Ignoring what the LORD had told Rebekah, Isaac determined to bless Esau as the oldest twin. Rather than trust the LORD to keep His promise, Rebekah resolved to deceive Isaac by having Jacob pretend he was Esau to receive Isaac’s blessing. It appears neither Isaac nor Rebekah prayed to discern the LORD’s will, while Rebekah and Jacob sinned to ensure that the LORD’s will would be done. When Jacob lied to him, Isaac refused to believe his ears when he heard Jacob’s voice; instead, he trusted in his senses of taste, touch, and smell and gave Esau’s blessing to Jacob. The LORD did not approve of the sins of Rebekah and Jacob, but despite the evil they did, the LORD kept His promise. Esau and Jacob could not both be in the line of the Messiah, and before they were born, the LORD had chosen Jacob to carry on His promises to Abraham and Isaac. Since Jacob stayed home, he was prepared to carry on the family traditions and livelihood as shepherds. However, after Jacob left home to find a wife, Rebekah never saw him again, and Jacob latter suffered from the deceptions of her brother, Laban.

1. For what sins were Rebekah and Jacob guilty?
2. As far as we know, what did Isaac refuse to do?
3. Which son do you think was prepared to receive Isaac’s blessing? Why?
4. What kind of a person was Esau?
5. How was the blessing of Jacob ultimately fulfilled.