



Isaac Father to Jacob & Esau

Reader from
Genesis 24:62-67, 25:21-28,
27:1-38

By Felicia Mollohan

I-saac went out to
med-i-tate in the field
to-ward ev-en-ing; and he
lift-ed up his eyes and
looked, and be-hold,
cam-els were com-ing.
Re-bek-ah lift-ed up her
eyes, and when she saw
I-saac she dis-mount-ed
from the cam-el.

² She said to the ser-vant,
"Who is that man walk-ing
in the field to meet us?"

And the ser-vant said,
"He is my mas-ter." Then
she took her veil and
cov-ered her-self.

The ser-vant told I-saac³
all the things that he had
done. Then I-saac
brought her into his
moth-er Sar-ah's tent,
and he took Re-bek-ah,
and she be-came his wife,
and he loved her.

I-saac prayed to the Lord on be-half of his wife, be-cause she was bar-ren; and the Lord an-swered him and Re-bek-ah his wife con-ceived. But the child-ren strug-gled to-geth-er with-in her; and she said, "If it is so, why then am I *this way*?" So she went to in-quire of the Lord.

The Lord said to her,
"Two na-tions are in your womb;
And two peo-ples will be sep-ar-a-ted from your bod-y;
And one peo-ple shall be strong-er than the oth-er;
And the old-er shall serve the young-er."
When her days to be de-liv-ered were ful-filled, be-hold, there were twins in her womb.

⁶ Now the first came forth
red, all over like a hair-y
gar-ment; and they
named him E-sau.

Af-ter-ward his broth-er
came forth with his hand
hold-ing on to E-sau's
heel, so his name was
called Ja-cob; and I-saac
was six-ty years old when
she gave birth to them.

When the boys grew up, ⁷
E-sau be-came a skill-ful
hunt-er, a man of the
field, but Ja-cob was a
peace-ful man, liv-ing in
tents. Now I-saac loved
E-sau, be-cause he had a
taste for game, but
Re-be-kah loved Ja-cob.

⁸ Now it came a-bout, when
I-saac was old and his
eyes were too dim to see,
that he called his old-er
son E-sau and said to him,
"My son." And he said to
him, "Here I am." I-saac
said, "Be-hold now, I am
old *and* I do not know the
day of my death.

Now then, please take ⁹
your gear, your quiv-er
and your bow, and go out
to the field and hunt
game for me; and
pre-pare a sa-vor-y dish
for me such as I love, and
bring it to me that I may
eat, so that my soul may
bless you be-fore I die."

¹⁰ Re-bek-ah was list-en-ing
while I-saac spoke to his
son E-sau. So when E-sau
went to the field to hunt
for game to bring *home*,
Re-bek-ah said to her son
Ja-cob, "Be-hold, I heard
your fath-er speak to
your broth-er E-sau,
say-ing,

'Bring me *some* game and"
pre-pare a sa-vor-y dish
for me, that I may eat,
and bless you in the
pre-sence of the Lord
be-fore my death.' Now
there-fore, my son,
list-en to me as I
com-mand you.

¹² Go now to the flock and
bring me two choice
young goats from there,
that I may pre-*pare*
them *as* a sa-*vor-y* dish
for your fath-er, such as
he loves. Then you shall
bring *it* to your fath-er,
that he may eat, so that
he may bless you be-*fore*
his death.”

¹³ Ja-cob an-*swered* his
moth-er Re-bek-ah, “Be-
hold, E-sau my broth-er is
a hair-*y* man and I am a
smooth man. Per-*haps*
my fath-er will feel me,
then I will be as a
de-*ceiv-er* in his sight, and
I will bring up-*on* my-*self*
a curse and not a
bless-*ing*.”

Then he came to his fath-er and said, "My fath-er." And he said, "Here I am. Who are you, my son?" Ja-cob said to his fath-er, "I am E-sau your first-born; I have done as you told me. Get up, please, sit and eat of my game, that you may bless me."

I-saac said to his son, "How is it that you have *it* so quick-ly, my son?" And he said, "Be-cause the Lord your God caused *it* to hap-pen to me." Then I-saac said to Ja-cob, "Please come close, that I may feel you, my son, wheth-er you are real-ly my son E-sau or not."

¹⁶So Ja-cob came close to I-saac his fath-er, and he felt him and said, "The voice is the voice of Ja-cob, but the hands are the hands of E-sau."

He did not re-cog-nize him, be-cause his hands were hair-y like his broth-er E-sau's hands; so he blessed him. And he said, "Are you real-ly my son E-sau?" And he said, "I am."

So he said, "Bring *it* to me,¹⁷ and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you." And he brought *it* to him, and he ate; he al-so brought him wine and he drank. Then his fath-er I-saac said to him, "Please come close and kiss me, my son."

So he came close and
 kissed him; and when he
 smelled the smell of his
 gar-ments, he blessed him
 and said,
 "See, the smell of my son
 Is like the smell of a field
 which the Lord has
 blessed;
 Now may God give you of
 the dew of heav-en,
 And of the fat-ness of
 the earth,
 And an a-bun-dance of
 grain and new wine;

May peo-ples serve you,
 And na-tions bow down to
 you; Be mas-ter of your
 broth-ers, And may your
 moth-er's sons bow down
 to you. Cursed be those
 who curse you, And
 blessed be those who
 bless you." Now it came
 a-bout, as soon as I-saac
 had fin-ished bless-ing
 Ja-cob,

20 and Ja-cob had hard-ly gone out from the pre-sence of I-saac his fath-er, that E-sau his broth-er came in from his hunt-ing. Then he al-so made sa-vor-y food, and brought it to his fath-er; and he said to his fath-er, "Let my fath-er a-rise and eat of his son's game, that you may bless me."

21 I-saac his fath-er said to him, "Who are you?" And he said, "I am your son, your first-born, E-sau." Then I-saac trem-bled vio-lent-ly, and said, "Who was he then that hunt-ed game and brought *it* to me, so that I ate of all *of it* be-fore you came, and blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed."

When E-sau heard the words of his fath-er, he cried out with an ex-ceed-ing-ly great and bit-ter cry, and said to his fath-er, "Bless me, *even* me also, O my fath-er!" And he said, "Your broth-er came de-ceit-ful-ly and has ta-ken away your bless-ing." Then he said, "Is he not right-ly named Ja-cob, for he has sup-plant-ed me these two times.

He took a-way my birth-right, and be-hold, now he has ta-ken a-way my bless-ing." And he said, "Have you not re-served a bless-ing for me?" But I-saac re-plied to E-sau, "Be-hold, I have made him your mas-ter, and all his rel-a-tives I have giv-en to him as ser-vants; and with grain and new wine I have sus-tained him. Now as for you then, what can I do, my son?"

E-sau said to his fath-er,

”Do you have only one

bles-ing, my fath-er?

Bless me, *e-ven* me al-so,

O my fath-er.” So E-sau

lift-ed his voice and wept.