



## Place of peace established.

### Lesson 93

June 27, 2012

I would like to begin our lesson this week by looking at the story of Jacob and Esau. Jacob and Esau were brothers. They were twins in fact. Esau was born first, followed by Jacob who was holding Esau's heel. In the olden days the firstborn was to receive the birthright (inheritance) and the family blessing. Therefore, these both were to go to Esau as he was the firstborn.

Esau's father's name was Isaac. Isaac loved Esau, particularly the game he brought him to eat. But Rebekah, Esau's mother, she loved his brother, Jacob, best. I have always wondered why each loved the other son best. Maybe, Rebekah, loved Jacob best because of what the LORD had said to her when she was pregnant. He had told her:

**Genesis 25:23** *And the LORD said to her: "Two nations are in your womb, two peoples shall be separated from your body; one people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger."*

However maybe, just maybe, Rebekah loved Jacob more because she could see a difference between Esau and Jacob's attitudes or character. After all if you remember, Esau had willingly sold his birthright to his brother for a meal of stew and bread. The bible says that Esau (the eldest brother) "*despised his birthright*". I wonder do you think he despised it because he had already sold it or that he decided to sell it because he despised it? Either way, I actually always took this to mean, that it was something that he did not value. Maybe, this was what his mother saw. Or maybe it was the two put together (the Lord's word's and Esau's attitude put together). Nevertheless, Rebekah, came up with a plan that would enable Jacob to receive his father's blessing instead of Esau, thereby taking away the last part that was due Esau.

Rebekah convinced Jacob to dress up and disguise himself as his brother. Isaac was virtually blind at this point in his life, so he could not see the difference between his two sons. He would distinguish them apart by their voice, their smell and even by the feel of their skin. Jacob had smooth skin while Esau was very hairy. Hence Rebekah disguised Jacob by having him put on Esau's clothes and she even had him wear the skin of a goat on his arms and neck. This made Jacob feel and smell like Esau. And yes, her plan did work. Isaac blessed Jacob although he believed he was blessing, his firstborn, Esau!

**Genesis 27:27-29** *And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled he smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said:*

*"Surely, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the LORD has blessed. Therefore may God give you of the dew of heaven, of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine. Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you, be master over your brethren, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you!*

Just about as soon as Isaac finished blessing Jacob, Esau came in. He was expecting to get his father's blessing but he soon discovered that it had gone to his brother instead. Esau then pled with his father,

**Genesis 27:38-40** *"Have you only one blessing, my father? Bless me---me also, O my father!" And Esau lifted up his voice and wept. Then Isaac his father answered and said to him:*

*"Behold, your dwelling shall be of the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above. By your sword you shall live and you shall serve your brother; and it shall come to pass, when you become restless, that you shall break his yoke from your neck."*

The bible tells us that after all this happened, Esau hated Jacob, he even planned to kill him. However, Rebekah, intervened once more. She had heard of Esau's plan so she advised Jacob to flee to her brother's home. She managed to get Isaac to go along with Jacob's journey by saying that he needed to go there to get a suitable wife. She knew Isaac did not want his sons to marry any daughter of Canaan. So Isaac agreed to Jacob leaving to seek a wife from Rebekah's brother. And Isaac then blessed Jacob once again before he left:

**Genesis 28:3-4** *"May God Almighty bless you, and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may be an assembly of peoples; and give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and your descendants with you, that you may inherit the land in which you are a stranger, which God gave to Abraham."*

When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob for a second time and that he had sent Jacob away to take a wife from his mother's people, well this evidently, added to Esau's anger and frustration. He was aware, you see, that his father had told Jacob, *"You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan."* So this is exactly what Esau went and did.

Yes, Esau went to Ishmael, Abraham's son by the Egyptian bondswoman Hagar, and he married Ishmael's daughter Mahalath. Was this spirit of rebellion what Rebekah had seen in Esau? Was this type of behavior the inspiration for Rebekah's deceitful plan? We will probably never know what motivated her for sure. However, we do know that Jacob did indeed start his journey.

Jacob stopped one night while he was on this journey. He used a stone and put it at his head that night. He slept and while he slept he dreamed. He dreamed a dream from the Lord. He dreamed of a ladder that went up from the earth into the heavens and there on this ladder there were angels that were ascending and descending upon it. The LORD had even stood above it and said,

**Genesis 28:13-15** *"I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and to the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."*

So Jacob awoke from the dream and was amazed and afraid at the same time. He realized this dream was truly from the Lord. He took the stone that had been at his head and he set it up as a pillar. Then he poured oil on top of it and he made a vow. He promised that,

**Genesis 28:20-22** *"If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God. And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."*

Jacob continued on his journey until he came to the land of his mother's brother, Laban. Leah and Rachel, the daughters of Laban, became his wives. Jesus' lineage, in fact, can be traced back to Leah and Jacob.

From this story we can see that Jacob came to be a man who developed a relationship with the Lord. He spent time in prayer. The Lord spoke to him through dreams. And the Lord blessed him. But Jacob was human just like you and I. He sinned like we have sinned yet the Lord was with him.

The Lord let Jacob know that, ***I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.*** The Lord, likewise, is with us. And yes, we like Jacob, have imperfections. We have sinned. We have done things we wished we had not. However, we can also be like Jacob in that we too can develop a relationship with the Lord. The Lord is teaching us of how to come into covenant with him. He is teaching us how to be in a relationship with him. The Lord speaks to us just as He spoke to Jacob.

This week the Lord said,

06/20/12 DP - **I AM with you My child.**

06/26/12 CT – **My peace I give to you; My peace is different from the peace the world gives. My peace is not a satisfaction derived from things, a short-lived peace. No, My peace is enduring because you know Me, because we are in a relationship (with Me). I assure you that I AM with you always** but sometimes you forget this. You try to compare our relationship to human relationship but this does not and will not work because I AM: I AM answers, I AM comfort, I AM assurance, I AM so much more than man can comprehend but always remember that **I am there. I AM there with you right now. There with you in the future. You are never alone.** I AM guiding. I AM responding. I AM sending you My love. Can you feel it? Share My love and it will return back to you. That's all for now.

Through His words we can see that the Lord is offering assurances to us just as he offered assurances to Jacob. He will not leave you, just as He did not leave Jacob. And He will give you answers. He will respond to you. Yes, He is sending His love to you! And He is sending His peace, can you feel it?

06/21/12 DP - **I dwell with you** in oneness.

06/22/12 DP - **I AM all around you.** Place of peace established. Seek Me for understanding all will be explained.

06/24/12 BN - Sometimes it is okay to just sit and listen quietly in peace, a time of rest spent silently with Me away from the cares of this world, no pressing issues, no instruction, just silent time with Me. Remember **I AM here** for you no matter what your needs...and peace and comfort can always be found in Me. Go in peace and love My son.

06/24/12 LB - Your faith in Me is growing, but do not forget to pray and talk to Me. **I AM with you** during the whole day. Speak to Me often.

06/25/12 SN - **I AM with you.**

06/26/12 CT - My peace is enduring because you know Me, because we are in a relationship (with Me). **I assure you that I AM with you always.**

I can feel the assurance of His very presence just through these words. I know He is here with me and with you, just as He was with Jacob. The bible teaches us that no one person is valued above another.

**Acts 10:34** *Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality."*

**Romans 2:11** *For there is no partiality with God.*

Therefore, you and I are special to the Lord just as Jacob was special to the Lord. The Lord guided Jacob. And He wants to guide us as well. He wants to give you the same guidance he gave Jacob. For example, the Lord advised Jacob to *"Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there; and make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from the face of Esau your brother."* And like Jacob, Bob and I, were told to move. I will always remember when this happened. It occurred very early and clearly one morning when the Lord said, **"Move to Grapeland"**. So we went to *dwell there*, just as Jacob went to Bethel.

We became even more aware of The Lord's presence and of His protections through this experience. He spared us from our storm (Hurricane Ike) just as he spared Jacob from his storm (Esau's wrath). The Lord's peace came to us because we were coming to know Him more closely. We had been obedient just as Jacob had been obedient. On 06/17/12 the Lord said: **Obedience is a warm embrace. Acknowledged and received. You have done well. You have listened and obeyed. Keep up this closeness, keep up this love.** Obedience, you see, helps us to come to know him better and peace is a by-product of this relationship.

However, the Lord offers all types of guidance, not just those related to habitation. For example in the words above He assured us, **I AM guiding**. And He gave these words about guidance as well this week:

06/20/12 MVA- **I give daily guidance, seek Me early for this guidance. Each day is a new beginning. Look to each day's guidance and instruction. Much will be accomplished in single focus on your God Jesus. Stay attentive looking to Me Jesus in all.**

06/20/12 BN - **I lay your path before you, Follow it and be safe and saved.**

06/21/12 DP - **Honor My will for your life. Be apart of My plans, seek Me for guidance in all things, I will reveal to you if you will seek Me.**

06/24/12 LB - **Guidance through love; My Holy Spirit will always guide you.**

06/24/12 MVA - **Guidance is given, look to flow chart and see. Study and understand what is given you. Be careful. All is not as it seems. You must look to Me for understanding not the world, not man. I give understanding. I AM your supply. I AM your guidance. I AM your protection.**

And from the bible:

**Psalm 32:8** *I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.*

**Proverbs 1:33** *But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil.*

**Isaiah 48:17-18** *Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you*

*had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.*

Yes, the Lord just confirmed it in the verses above from Isaiah that obedience will lead you to having a peace that is flowing like a river. Yes, He wants to guide us. He wants to lead us but this is impossible when we are not listening, when we are not walking with him, when we are being disobedient. The Lord, once again, clearly emphasizes that He wants to guide us. He made this point through these remarks:

06/21/12 FJ - *Seek my way and my thoughts on a matter, thus sayeth the Lord.*

06/24/12 MVA - *Stay walking hand in hand with your God Jesus.*

06/24/12 LB - *My Holy Spirit will always guide you.*

06/26/12 JC - *I AM always with you, even when you don't feel it and allow 'self' to inflate and cause unrighteousness. You are holy by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and My blood shed.*

06/26/12 BN - *Go forth from Me today and be obedient in every way. Be obedient to all of My commands. That is all you need do. That is all I require. Your obedience shows Me your love. Your love makes you one with Me. Be one with Me as I AM calling you out. Await My commands and listen for them.*

06/27/12 BT – *Listen, I AM speaking, Who will hear? I AM pouring out My Spirit upon the earth. Some will respond and many will not. You must respond to My command. Training, training, and more training is required. You must hear Me clearly and obey. This is not to be hit and miss. It must be hand in hand. It must be as one. You have to be an extension of Me, together, fusion, one in Me. There is no other way. This is victory. Stay close and rebuke the devourer. Don't listen to him. Don't listen to his lies or temptations. He knows time is getting short also. Stand strong and focus on ME. Listen to Me. I AM speaking to you. I love you.*

In spite of Jacob's initial deception he came to be obedient unto the Lord. When the Lord said, Arise and go, he went. The bible even tells us that God blessed him.

**Genesis 35:9** *Then God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Padan Aram, and blessed him. And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; your name shall not be called Jacob anymore, but Israel shall be your name." So He called his name Israel. Also God said to him: "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body. The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to your descendants after you I give this land."*

Therefore, our obedience will bring blessings for us as well. We will receive the peace we spoke of earlier and we will also be growing closer to the Lord. On 6/25/12 the Lord said, *Treasures for My beloved*. Yes, our closeness will bring us His treasures. Remember He said, *I AM answers, I AM comfort, I AM assurance, I AM so much more than man can comprehend*. And He said, *I AM your supply. I AM your guidance. I AM your protection*. Yes, the Lord's treasures are priceless. His treasures are not *derived from things*. His treasures bring peace.

This week the Lord is reminding us to look to Him to meet our needs:

06/25/12 FJ - *Come follow Me and leave everything else behind. I have an assignment. If you will honor Me and walk in my paths, I will have virtue waiting for you and mercy. You will not be the vagabond. Search in My depths. Have I not said it? Rise in Me, I will instruct your way. You will learn My way. Choose Me this day. (I choose You Lord)*

06/26/12 MVA - Do not be discouraged or side tracked. Be encouraged keep My priorities first. I AM your provision not the world. Do not look to the natural for provision but to your God Jesus. My provision is in abundance. Do not doubt or waiver be steadfast in your God Jesus.

I hope the Lord has touched you through this story of Jacob just as he has touched me. Jacob led an amazing life. However, he did have sin in his life. None of us are perfect. We all make mistakes just as Jacob did. But the Lord has made provision for each of us just as he made provision for Jacob. The Lord has assured us that He is here to teach, to guide, and to help us understand. Come let us follow him and **leave everything else behind.**

May the Lord Bless and Keep You in Jesus Name,  
Cindy

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