

The Blessing of Jacob

Genesis 27:26-29

The patriarchal benediction is a covenant blessing passed on from a father to his eldest son. This blessing is given in the presence of and by the authority of God. When spoken by God's instrument, it carried with it the power of God's Word to bring it to pass. This blessing was usually accompanied by a sacrifice and feast.

Esau was the one by birthright to receive this special blessing. However, Esau sold his birthright for a pot of soup. (Gen 25:27-34)

It was by cunning and deceit that Jacob got both the birthright and blessing due Esau. God foresaw this and announced it to Rebekah before the boys' birth. (Gen 25:23)

Jacob, led by his mother, conspired to steal the blessing from Esau. While Esau was out hunting venison, Rebekah put their plan into action. They used Isaac's blindness to their advantage.

1. Made savoury meat of goats
2. Put Esau's clothes on Jacob so he would smell like him.
3. Used goat skin on Jacob's neck and hands to make him feel like Esau.

Jacob did manage to steal his brother's blessing.

The blessing was as follows:

Prosperity – vs. 28 (plenty)

Productivity – vs. 29 (servants)

Prominence, Pre-eminence, Power – vs. 29 (nations bow, be lord)

Protection – vs. 29 (curse and bless)

Even though he received this blessing by deceit, as spoken by Isaac it was so. (vs. 33)

Lessons to Learn

1. God's blessings come through those that have a position of influence in our lives.
2. God's blessings come to pass because of the power of His Word, not the merit of man.
 - Isaac was fooled
 - Jacob deceived
 - God's blessing was so. "...he shall be blessed"
3. When we have God's blessing, we have what is necessary to carry out God's purpose.
4. Our prosperity and protection are found in God's purpose.

