

The Birth of a Nation

A Study in Genesis 25-36

God With Us
Genesis 26:1-35
February 14, 2021

And the LORD appeared to him and said, "Do not go down to Egypt: dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you..."
- Genesis 26:2-3

I. A COMMAND...AND A SOLEMN PROMISE

- As Abraham strove to keep Isaac in the land of promise, so now God keeps Isaac from departing (Gen. 24:6, 8; 26:2).
- Isaac receives the same blessing as his father Abraham, and a reminder as to why Abraham retained the blessing (Gen. 12:1-3, 15:4-5, 17:4-9, 26:3-5).

II. LIES, RICHES, WELLS, AND TREATIES

- Isaac, like his father, is a liar. His fear drives him to deceit and to the endangerment of his wife (Gen. 10:12-20, 20:1-18, 26:6-11).
- Like his father, Isaac is blessed with land, bountiful harvests, flocks and herds, and wells of fresh water (Gen. 26:12-25).
- Like his father, Isaac cuts a treaty with a king by the name of Abimelech at Beersheeba (Gen. 21:22-34).
- At Beersheeba, Isaac develops his own relationship with the LORD (Gen. 26:23-25).
- Esau also marries at 40 years of age. He chooses his wives poorly, and brings bitterness to his father and mother (Gen. 26:34-35).

III. AND I WILL BE WITH YOU AND BLESS YOU

- Obedience to God invites the presence of God (Gen. 26:3; Matt 28:19-20; Acts 18:9-11).
- Obedience to God invites true wisdom (Ps. 119:99-101).
- Obedience to God invites delight for those who love him (Ps. 119:111-112, 117-120, 127-130, 166-168).
- Obedience to God invites the blessings of God (Gen. 26:2-5).
- Obedience to God invites life (John 8:51).

KNOW: God's promises remain ever true. We know his blessings best when we hold fast to him and obey his word. When we are with him, he is with us. When he is with us, we are with him.

DO: Hold fast to God and find him holding fast to you.

Suggested Reading:

The Obedience Option: Because God Knows What's Good For Us
by David W. Hegg (LifePoint Library #248.4 HEG)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Genesis 26:1-35

1. This chapter relates to us four storylines (distinct yet related to each other). What is its overall theme?
2. What does God want from Isaac? What does he promise?
3. Isaac is a lot like his father. Talk about how we tend to not learn from the mistakes of others. Why do we think we are different?
4. What, do you think, is God doing (or accomplishing) in Isaac's life?
5. Esau demonstrates his lack of judgment and wisdom in verses 34-35. What does this tell us about him?
6. We spoke about obedience Sunday. Why does a good God expect obedience from his people?
7. What can you apply, specifically, from Sunday's message/ passage?