

LESSON 23

1. What was the name of the son which God gave to Abraham and Sarah?

-Isaac.

2. Did Abraham know that God planned to bring the Savior through the line of Isaac?

-Yes.

3. How could God command Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?

-Because God gave life to Abraham.

-Because God gave life to Isaac.

-Because God is the Lord of all people.

4. God promised Abraham that Isaac would be the father of many descendants, and that the Savior would be his descendant. Did God change his mind?

-No.

5. Did Abraham think that God had changed His mind?

-No.

-Abraham believed in God and His promises.

6. What did Abraham believe that God would do if he sacrificed Isaac?

-Abraham believed that if he sacrificed Isaac, God would raise Isaac from the dead.

7. Why was Abraham not able to save Isaac?

-Because Abraham had already lifted up his knife to sacrifice Isaac.

8. Why was Isaac not able to save himself?

-Because Abraham had tied Isaac's hands and feet

9. Are other people able to save us?

-No.

10. Are we able to save ourselves?

-No.

11. Who is the only One who is able to save us?

-God.

12. Who spoke to Abraham and saved Isaac?

-God.

13. Who provided a sacrifice to take Isaac's place?

-God.

14. Why did God tie up the ram by its horns?

-Because God would only accept a perfect sacrifice to take the place of Isaac.

15. Why did Abraham call the place, "The Lord will provide"?

-Abraham believed that just as God provided the ram, God would one day provide the Savior to save people.

-Abraham's wife Sarah died, and Isaac mourned for his mother.

-After Abraham's wife Sarah died, what did Abraham do for his son Isaac to comfort him?

Let's read Genesis 24:67 & 25:20

67-Isaac brought Rebekah into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

20-And Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah.

-Abraham found a wife for his son Isaac.

-What was the name of Isaac's wife?

-Rebekah.

-Rebekah was born in the land where Abraham had lived before God led him to Canaan.

-After a time, Abraham also died.

-Because Isaac's wife, Rebekah, was barren, she was not able to have children.

-But Isaac prayed for her, and God answered his prayer.

Let's read Genesis 25:21-23

21-Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

22-The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

23-The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

-Before Rebekah's children were born, she asked God about them.

-How did God respond?

-God responded that Rebekah would have twins, and that the older child would serve the younger child.

-Before Rebekah's twins were born, God knew everything about them.

-How did God know everything about Rebekah's twins before they were born?

-God knows everything about all people.

-There is nothing hidden from God.

-Before we are born, God knows everything about us.

- God knows all that happened to us in the past.
- God knows all that is happening to us now.
- God knows all that will happen to us in the future.

-After a time, Rebekah gave birth to twin boys.

Let's read Genesis 25:24-26

24-When the time came for Rebekah to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb.

25-The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau.

26-After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.

-What were the names of the twin boys which Rebekah gave birth to?

-Esau and Jacob.

-Esau was the first born.

Let's read Genesis 25:27a

27-Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country.

-Esau was a good hunter, and spent much time hunting.

-Did Esau believe in God?

-No.

-Jacob was the second born.

Let's read Genesis 25:27b

27-Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents.

-Jacob kept sheep and cattle, and lived quietly in his tent.

-Did Jacob believe in God?

-Yes.

-One day, something happened between Esau and Jacob.

Let's read Genesis 25:29-34

29-Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country famished.

30-He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!"

31-Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

32-"Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

33-But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

34-Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

-One day, Esau came back from hunting and was very hungry.

-Esau saw that Jacob was cooking red stew, and commanded Jacob to give him some.

-Because Esau was hungry, he sold his birthright to Jacob for some red stew.

-Why did Esau sell his birthright?

-Because he did not value it.

-What did Esau value?

-Esau only valued his stomach.

-Esau only valued his flesh.

-How were Esau and Jacob different?

-Esau did not think that he had been born into sin.

-Jacob knew that he had been born into sin.

-Esau did not think that he had sinned against God.

-Jacob knew that he had sinned against God.

-Esau did not think that sin brings eternal death.

-Jacob knew that sin brings eternal death.

-Esau did not want to follow God.

-Jacob wanted to follow God.

-Esau did not want God to send the Savior to save him.

-Jacob wanted God to send the Savior to save him.

- As the firstborn, the birthright was for Esau.
- As the firstborn, God would send the Savior through the line of Esau.

- But Esau did not value his birthright.

- Esau did not want God to send the Savior through his descendants.

- Esau only wanted red stew.
- Esau only wanted what his stomach told him.

- Do we follow what our stomach tells us, or do we follow God?
- Do we follow what our flesh tells us, or do we follow God?

- If we follow our stomach, it will lead us to death.
- If we follow our flesh, it will lead us to death.

- If we follow God, He will lead us to life.

- Because Esau did not believe in God, God chose Jacob.

- Because Esau did not believe in God, God chose to send the Savior through the line of Jacob.

- Why did God choose to send the Savior through the line of Jacob?

-Because Esau did not believe in God.

-Because Esau did not believe in God, God gave Jacob the birthright.

-When God gave Jacob the birthright, Esau became very angry.

Let's read Genesis 27:41

41-Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

-Esau was so angry with Jacob that he planned to kill Jacob.

-But Jacob's mother Rebekah heard that Esau wanted to kill Jacob.

-So Rebekah called Jacob to send him away to the land where she was born.

Let's read Genesis 27:42-44

42-When Rebekah was told what her older son Esau had said, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him, "Your brother Esau is consoling himself with the thought of killing you.

43-Now then, my son, do what I say: Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran.

44-Stay with him for a while until your brother's fury subsides.”

-Jacob left his mother and father, and started walking to the land of Haran.

-Haran was the land where Jacob's mother Rebekah was born.

-Haran was the land where Jacob's grandfather Abraham had lived before God led him to Canaan.

-Because Haran was very far, Jacob's journey lasted many days.

-That night, as Jacob went to sleep, God gave Jacob a dream.

Let's read Genesis 28:10-13a

10-Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran.

11-When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

12-He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

13-There above it stood the LORD.

-What did Jacob see in the dream God gave him?

-Jacob saw a ladder.

-Where was the bottom end of the ladder touching?

-The bottom end of the ladder was touching the earth.

-To where was the top end of the ladder reaching?

-The top end of the ladder reached into heaven.

-What did it mean that the ladder was touching the earth and reaching into heaven?

-The ladder was bringing the earth and heaven together.

-Who was at the top of the ladder?

-God.

-Who were walking up and down the ladder?

-Angels.

-What did it mean that the angels were walking up and down the ladder?

-That God wanted to be Jacob's God.

-Why did God give Jacob this dream?

-God was teaching Jacob about the Savior who would come.

-What was God teaching Jacob about the Savior?

-Just as the ladder was bringing earth and heaven together, God would send the Savior who would bring people on earth and God in heaven together.

-In the beginning, God walked together with Adam and Eve.

-But Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and they were separated from God.

-There was no way for Adam and Eve to get back together with God.

-But God promised to send the Savior, who would bring people on the earth and God in heaven back together again.

-The Savior would come to save people, so that God and people would walk together again.

-Here is an illustration:

-Patrick and Joseph were very good friends.

-Their enemy, however, hated both of them.

-The enemy was very jealous of their friendship.

-One day, the enemy thought of a way to destroy the friendship of Patrick and Joseph.

-The enemy went to Patrick, and told him that Joseph wanted to hurt him.

-Patrick believed the lies of the enemy, and was separated from his friend Joseph.

-Joseph, however, still loved Patrick, and thought of a way of restoring their friendship.

-Joseph sent his son to speak with Patrick, and to tell him that the enemy had deceived him.

-Because of the son, Joseph and Patrick become friends once again.

-Satan deceived Adam and Eve, and they were separated from God.

-Yet God promised to send the Savior who would bring God and people back together again.

-Just as the ladder was the only way to reach heaven, the Savior is the only way to reach heaven.

-In his dream, God spoke to Jacob.

Let's read Genesis 28:13b-15

13-God said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham, and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.

14-Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

15-I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

-In the past, God spoke to people in dreams.

-Today, how does God most often speak to people?

-Today, God most often speaks to people through His Book, the Bible.

-Why did God speak to Jacob?

-God was giving promises to Jacob.

-The promises that God gave to Abraham and Isaac, God was now giving to Jacob.

-What did God promise Jacob?

-God promised that Jacob would have many descendants.

-God promised that He would bless Jacob.

-God promised to bless all people by sending the Savior, who would be one of Jacob’s descendants

-Did God forget about His promise to send the Savior?

-No.

-God can not forget His promise to send the Savior.

-Why can God not forget His promise to send the Savior?

-Because God cannot forget.

-Because God cannot change.

-Because God always keeps His promises.

-The next morning, Jacob continued his journey.

Let's read Genesis 29:1

1-Then Jacob continued on his journey and came to the land of the eastern peoples.

-Jacob continued his journey until he finally reached the land of Haran.

-In Haran, Jacob lived for many years.

-In Haran, Jacob married two sisters, and became the father of twelve sons.

-After Jacob had lived in the land of Haran for many years, God once again spoke to Jacob.

-What did God say to Jacob while Jacob was still living in Haran?

Let's read Genesis 31:13

13-God said, “I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land.”

-After Jacob had lived in Haran for many years, what did God tell Jacob?

-God told Jacob to leave Haran and to return to the land of Canaan.

-As Jacob was returning to the land of Canaan, God gave Jacob a new name.

Let's read Genesis 32:28

28-Then the LORD said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel.”

-What new name did God give to Jacob?

-Israel.

-The name Israel means to struggle with God.

-In the next lesson, we will learn more about Jacob.