INHERITING AND PASSING ON GOD’S BLESSING

Genesis 25:19-28:5 Lesson 14

Key Verses: 26:2,3

1. ***Isaac and Rebekah pray*** (25:19-34)
2. Review how Isaac had inherited God’s covenant blessing as well as many other blessings with­out having to do anything (17:19; 21:12; 24:35.36; 25:5). After his father’s death and his marriage to Rebekah, what problem did Isaac face and what did he do about it? (25:21) How long did he have to wait for God to answer? (20a,26b) How was God training him through this?
3. What was Rebekah’s problem during pregnancy and what did she do about it? (22) What promise did God give her concern­ing her sons? (23) What was his purpose for them?
4. Compare and contrast Jacob and Esau (27,28). Why did the parents differ in prefer­ence? Why was Jacob better suited to inherit God’s covenant? (29-34; cf. Heb12:16)
5. ***God was with Isaac in the midst of non-believers*** (26:1-35)
6. What was the situation in the promised land and what did Isaac do about it? (1) Locate Gerar on a map. Where did Isaac evidently plan to go (2a), and why? How was this similar to what his father Abraham had done at first? (12:10)
7. What did God tell Isaac to do? (2,3) Why was it important for Isaac to stay there? What personal promise did God give him? (3a) What were God’s larger promises? (3b,4) How were these like the promises given to Abraham? (12:2,3; 13:16; 15:5) What basically good example did Abraham give his son? (5) How did Isaac respond to God? (6) What does this show about him?
8. What happened after Isaac made his decision? (7) In what way was he like his father? (12:11-13; 20:1,2) Why were they both afraid of the people around them? (20:11) In what ways might Christians today also be afraid of those among whom they live?
9. How was Isaac’s deception about his wife uncovered? (8) What did Abimelech do? (9-11) How was God’s unseen hand at work in this? What can we learn here about God?
10. What did Isaac do in the promised land, and how did God bless him? (12,13) Why was this much blessing unusual? (1) How did the Philistines react? (14-16) Where did Isaac relocate, and what did he do there? (17,18) What conflict did Isaac’s herdsmen and those of Gerar have? (19-21) What did Isaac do? (22) What can we learn from him?
11. Where did Isaac go next? (23) Locate Beersheba on a map. What had happened to Abraham there? (21:25-34) Why might Isaac have gone there at this time? What happened that night? (24) Why did Isaac need to hear this? How did he respond? (25) What is the significance of this?
12. Who came to see Isaac there? (26) How did Isaac respond to them? (27) How did they answer? (28,29) What did Isaac do? (30,31) How was God’s hand in these things also? What can we learn here about how to bear God’s blessing while living among non-believers?
13. ***God’s covenant blessing given to Jacob*** (27:1-28:5)
14. Why did Isaac think he would die soon? (27:1,2) (When did he actually die? [cf. 35:28,29]) What did he want to do and what were his instructions to Esau? (3,4) What was Rebekah’s counter-plan? (5-10) What did she believe about Isaac’s blessing? (7b) How did Jacob respond? (11,12) What did Rebekah say? (13) What lessons of faith can we learn from her?
15. How did Rebekah help Jacob? (14-17) How did Jacob trick his father into giving him his blessing? (18-29) What happened to Esau? (30-40) What was his plan? (41) How did Rebekah again protect Jacob? (42-46) Why the emphasis on the Hittite women? (cf.26:34,35) What did Isaac say to Jacob? (28:1-5) How was Isaac’s blessing different this time? (27:28,29) Why?
16. What can we learn from Isaac and Rebekah in these chapters about how to receive, maintain and pass on God’s blessing?