

May Teaching Series

SHIELDING YOUR FUTURE

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Key Scripture: Genesis 25: 27-34 Heb. 12:14-17

“ See that no one is sexually immoral, or godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. (V.16)

ESAU’S PROFILE

1. Son of Isaac.
2. Grandson of Abraham
3. The Firstborn son of Isaac
4. The Hunter (Gen. 25:27)
5. The Favorite son of Isaac (Gen. 25:28)

ESAU’S POSSESSION (V.31)

“Sell me your birthright as of this day”

1. **The physical advantages** of the birthright
 - a. Contained a double portion of the father’s inheritance – (Deut. 21:17)
 - b. Offered rule and authority over other members of the family - cf. Gen 27:29
 - c. Object of Special love (Jer. 31:9,20)
2. **The spiritual advantages** of this particular birthright
 - a. Patriarch and priest of the house on the death of his father
 - b. Chief of the chosen family, and heir of the promised blessing
 - c. Able to invoke Abraham’s blessing, regarding the promise - cf. **Gen 28:4; 12:1-3**

ESAU’S EXCHANGE (V. 34)

“ And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils ...Esau despise his birth right”

1. **Esau chose the sensual over the spiritual**
 - a. He gave into the cravings of his hunger - **Gen 25:29-34**
 - b. He valued the red pottage more highly than his birthright
 - c. For this reason he was called “a profane person” - **He 12:16**
2. **Esau chose the present over the future**
 - a. He tossed away future rewards for present gratification
 - b. The pottage may have assuaged his hunger for the day, but what of the morrow?
 - c. This too made him a “profane” person
3. **Esau regretted his choice.**
 - a. Esau lost all because he was impatience and careless.
 - b. He was sorry but it was too late.

APPLICATION QUESTION:

In what ways we give up our future?

1. When we are blind to the values of life
2. When we're ruled by our appetites rather than the Spirit of God
3. When we expect immediate gratification
4. When our focus is on the temporary things of this world instead of our eternity
5. When we forget to consider the future effects our choices and actions can have

LESSON FOR US TODAY

1. Choices have profound consequences.
2. It is a safe thing to leave your affairs in God's Hands.
3. When sin and deception come into a house, peace and mutual trust depart.
4. True happiness can only be found in obedience to God's will.
5. It can never be right to use the wrong means to gain a right end.