

**Rebekah and Jacob Deceive Isaac (1930 BC)**

Genesis 27:1–40

**Isaac Sends Esau to Prepare a Meal for the Blessing**

1 Now it came about, when Isaac was old and his eyes were too dim to see, that he called his older son Esau and said to him, “My son.” And he said to him, “Here I am.”

2 Isaac said, “Behold now, I am old *and* I do not know the day of my death.

3 Now then, please take your gear, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me;

4 and prepare a savory dish for me such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, so that my soul may bless you before I die.”

**Rebekah Acts Quickly**

5 Rebekah was listening while Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game to bring *home*,

6 Rebekah said to her son Jacob, “Behold, I heard your father speak to your brother Esau, saying,

7 ‘Bring me *some* game and prepare a savory dish for me, that I may eat, and bless you in the presence of the LORD before my death.’

8 Now therefore, my son, listen to me as I command you.

9 Go now to the flock and bring me two choice young goats from there, that I may prepare them *as* a savory dish for your father, such as he loves.

10 Then you shall bring *it* to your father, that he may eat, so that he may bless you before his death.”

11 Jacob answered his mother Rebekah, “Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man and I am a smooth man.

12 Perhaps my father will feel me, then I will be as a deceiver in his sight, and I will bring upon myself a curse and not a blessing.”

13 But his mother said to him, “Your curse be on me, my son; only obey my voice, and go, get *them* for me.”

14 So he went and got *them*, and brought *them* to his mother; and his mother made savory food such as his father loved.

15 Then Rebekah took the best garments of Esau her elder son, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son.

16 And she put the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.

17 She also gave the savory food and the bread, which she had made, to her son Jacob.

**Jacob Deceives His Father**

18 Then he came to his father and said, “My father.” And he said, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?”

19 Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn; I have done as you told me. Get up, please, sit and eat of my game, that you may bless me.”

20 Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have *it* so quickly, my son?” And he said, “Because the LORD your God caused *it* to happen to me.”

21 Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come close, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not.”

22 So Jacob came close to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, “The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.”

23 He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands; so he blessed him.

24 And he said, “Are you really my son Esau?” And he said, “I am.”

25 So he said, “Bring *it* to me, and I will eat of my son’s game, that I may bless you.” And he brought *it* to him, and he ate; he also brought him wine and he drank.

26 Then his father Isaac said to him, “Please come close and kiss me, my son.”

27 So he came close and kissed him; and when he smelled the smell of his garments, he blessed him and said,

“See, the smell of my son  
Is like the smell of a field which the LORD has blessed;  
28 Now may God give you of the dew of heaven,  
And of the fatness of the earth,  
And an abundance of grain and new wine;  
29 May peoples serve you,  
And nations bow down to you;  
Be master of your brothers,  
And may your mother’s sons bow down to you.  
Cursed be those who curse you,  
And blessed be those who bless you.”

### Isaac Realizes the Truth

30 Now it came about, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, and Jacob had hardly gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.  
31 Then he also made savory food, and brought it to his father; and he said to his father, “Let my father arise and eat of his son’s game, that you may bless me.”  
32 Isaac his father said to him, “Who are you?” And he said, “I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.”  
33 Then Isaac trembled violently, and said, “Who was he then that hunted game and brought *it* to me, so that I ate of all *of it* before you came, and blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.” [[Heb 11:20](#)]

### Esau Tries to Get Isaac to Change His Mind

34 When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, “Bless me, *even* me also, O my father!”  
35 And he said, “Your brother came deceitfully and has taken away your blessing.”  
36 Then he said, “Is he not rightly named Jacob, for he has supplanted me these two times? He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing.” And he said, “Have you not reserved a blessing for me?”  
37 But Isaac replied to Esau, “Behold, I have made him your master, and all his relatives I have given to him as servants; and with grain and new wine I have sustained him. Now as for you then, what can I do, my son?”  
38 Esau said to his father, “Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me, *even* me also, O my father.” So Esau lifted his voice and wept. [[Heb 12:17](#)]  
39 Then Isaac his father answered and said to him,

“Behold, away from the fertility of the earth shall be your dwelling,  
And away from the dew of heaven from above.  
40 “By your sword you shall live,  
And your brother you shall serve;  
But it shall come about when you become restless,  
That you will break his yoke from your neck.”

## Jacob Flees to Haran (1930 BC)

Genesis 27:41–28:22

### Esau Seeks Revenge and Rebekah Urges Jacob to Flee

27:41 So Esau bore a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him; and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

42 Now when the words of her elder son Esau were reported to Rebekah, she sent and called her younger son Jacob, and said to him, “Behold your brother Esau is consoling himself concerning you *by planning* to kill you.

43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice, and arise, flee to Haran, to my brother Laban!

44 Stay with him a few days, until your brother’s fury subsides,

45 until your brother’s anger against you subsides and he forgets what you did to him. Then I will send and get you from there. Why should I be bereaved of you both in one day?”

### **Isaac Blesses Jacob**

46 Rebekah said to Isaac, “I am tired of living because of the daughters of Heth; if Jacob takes a wife from the daughters of Heth, like these, from the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?”

28:1 So Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him, and said to him, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan.

2 Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother’s father; and from there take to yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban your mother’s brother.

3 May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples.

4 May He also give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, that you may possess the land of your sojournings, which God gave to Abraham.” [\[Heb 11:20\]](#)

5 Then Isaac sent Jacob away, and he went to Paddan-aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.

### **Esau Attempts to Redeem Himself by Marrying Isaac’s Niece**

6 Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram to take to himself a wife from there, *and that* when he blessed him he charged him, saying, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan,”

7 and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and had gone to Paddan-aram.

8 So Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan displeased his father Isaac;

9 and Esau went to Ishmael, and married, besides the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth.

### **Jacob’s Vision at Bethel**

10 Then Jacob departed from Beersheba and went toward Haran.

11 He came to a certain place and spent the night there, because the sun had set; and he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head, and lay down in that place.

12 He had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants.

14 Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

15 Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.”

17 He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

18 So Jacob rose early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on its top.

19 He called the name of that place Bethel; however, previously the name of the city had been Luz.  
20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me on this journey that I take, and will give me food to eat and garments to wear,  
21 and I return to my father’s house in safety, then the LORD will be my God.  
22 This stone, which I have set up as a pillar, will be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

### Jacob Works Seven Years for Rachel (1930–1923 BC)

Genesis 29:1–20

1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the sons of the east.  
2 He looked, and saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep were lying there beside it, for from that well they watered the flocks. Now the stone on the mouth of the well was large.  
3 When all the flocks were gathered there, they would then roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place on the mouth of the well.  
4 Jacob said to them, “My brothers, where are you from?” And they said, “We are from Haran.”  
5 He said to them, “Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?” And they said, “We know *him*.”  
6 And he said to them, “Is it well with him?” And they said, “It is well, and here is Rachel his daughter coming with the sheep.”  
7 He said, “Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered. Water the sheep, and go, pasture them.”  
8 But they said, “We cannot, until all the flocks are gathered, and they roll the stone from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep.”  
9 While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father’s sheep, for she was a shepherdess.  
10 When Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother’s brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother’s brother, Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the mouth of the well and watered the flock of Laban his mother’s brother.  
11 Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted his voice and wept.  
12 Jacob told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and that he was Rebekah’s son, and she ran and told her father.  
13 So when Laban heard the news of Jacob his sister’s son, he ran to meet him, and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Then he related to Laban all these things.  
14 Laban said to him, “Surely you are my bone and my flesh.” And he stayed with him a month.  
15 Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my relative, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?”  
16 Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.  
17 And Leah’s eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful of form and face.  
18 Now Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.”  
19 Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than to give her to another man; stay with me.”  
20 So Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

### Laban Deceives Jacob / Jacob Works Seven Years for Leah (1923–1916 BC)

Genesis 29:21–30

21 Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give *me* my wife, for my time is completed, that I may go in to her.”  
22 Laban gathered all the men of the place and made a feast.  
23 Now in the evening he took his daughter Leah, and brought her to him; and *Jacob* went in to her.  
24 Laban also gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as a maid.

25 So it came about in the morning that, behold, it was Leah! And he said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?”

26 But Laban said, “It is not the practice in our place to marry off the younger before the firstborn.

27 Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also for the service which you shall serve with me for another seven years.”

28 Jacob did so and completed her week, and he gave him his daughter Rachel as his wife.

29 Laban also gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her maid.

30 So *Jacob* went in to Rachel also, and indeed he loved Rachel more than Leah, and he served with Laban for another seven years.

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