

TEEN LESSON: JACOB VALUED THE BIRTHRIGHT: Theme: LESSONS FROM JACOB

MEMORY VERSE: John 3:16; For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Gen: 25:19-34; Abraham's son Isaac had two sons. They were twins. When Rebecca, their mother was pregnant, the babies (fought) each other inside her womb. She wondered what was happening so she asked the Lord.

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. When the twins were born, the first baby was red and strong and covered with hair. They named him Esau. The second came out with his hand grasping Esau's heel. They named him Jacob. As they were growing up, Esau became a skillful hunter while Jacob was quiet and he stayed around the tents.

One day when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came home from hunting and he was very hungry. He said to Jacob, "Give me some of that stew! I'm famished!" Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said "Look, I am about to die, "What good is the birthright to me?" Jacob made Esau swear to him, selling his birthright. Then Jacob gave him some of his food.

The Bible says; "Esau despised his birthright." He did not care! He sold it for a temporary pleasure. But Jacob valued it. The Birthright was the special privilege of the firstborn son. He would inherit the biggest part of his parent's estate. He also inherited the leadership and priesthood of the family. As these boys were growing up, Jacob spent time listening to the stories about God and how the earth was created. He would have heard about how God protected righteous Noah and his family during the flood. He would have heard how God chose his grandfather Abraham through whom to make the promise to bless the whole world. Jacob understood that God was important to his family. Even though God had not yet appeared to Jacob personally, Jacob must have believed the promises that God had made to the people before him. Jacob had Faith in God.

This is what FAITH is, believing what God has said and acting on it. God made many promises that we can read about in the Bible. We can choose to either believe or ignore them. One of these promises is found in John 3:16; it says; "For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

If you believe in Jesus and accept Him as your Savior, you are born into God's kingdom. You are "Born Again." This makes you part of God's family and you have an inheritance of eternal life.

This is a priceless inheritance. When you truly value what God intends for you then you can live your life as a "King's Kid."

Learn what your inheritance consists of by reading your Bible and by praying for God to direct you in your life. Do not sell your inheritance for temporary pleasures.