

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What real reason, other than hunger, prompted Esau to sell his birthright?
2. What can we say about Jacob's motives in making this type of bargain?
3. Today our enemy also tries to barter with us for our soul. What can we learn from Esau?
4. How do we "follow after holiness"?

SUMMARY:

God knew before Jacob and Esau were born how they would live in relation to Him. It is not because He predestined it to be so, but rather because even before they were born, He knew their hearts. The Word of God tells us that "*man looketh on the outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart.*" (1 Samuel 16:7) The fact that Esau was more concerned for the carnal things than the spiritual paints for us a picture of many today. They really want to be in fellowship with God but to maintain a close walk with God makes the price too high, when the hunger for the attractions of this life become such a driving force. We should beware lest losing this birthright we no longer find repentance, though we seek it with tears. [\[SoF:16\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:16\]](#) We believe that the gift of eternal life is a present possession of every true disciple of Jesus Christ, and that nothing nor anyone can take it from him. However, it is a realistic possibility for a true believer, of his own free will, to no longer "continue in the faith" but instead to apostatize, "depart from the faith", return to sin, and consequently forfeit the eternal life he once possessed.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #2

April 13, 2014

Second Quarter

ESAU SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT

LESSON TEXT: *Genesis 25:19-34; Hebrews 12:14-17*

LESSON SETTING: In the southern part of Canaan.

TIME: Approximately 1853 B.C.

I. SUBJECTS OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Genesis 25:19-26

- A. Esau—First-born (vs. 25)
 1. To be subject to the older (vs. 23) Romans 9:12
- B. Jacob—Second born (vs. 26)
 1. A stronger people (vs. 23) Romans 9:12-13

II. SELLING OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Genesis 25:27-34

- A. Overcome by Hunger (vs. 29-30) Proverbs 23:20-21
- B. Overcoming Hunger. Matthew 4:2-4; 2 Corinthians 11:27
- C. Dominated by Appetite (vs. 30) Numbers 11:4-6; Ecclesiastes 6:7; Isaiah 29:8; Hebrews 12:16
- D. Birthright Despised (vs. 34) Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-27; 2 Peter 2:20-22

III. SEEKING OF THE BIRTHRIGHT. Hebrews 12:14-17

- A. Qualifications for Life:
 1. Peace with all men (vs. 14) Mark 9:50; Romans 12:18
 2. Holiness (vs. 14) Luke 1:74-75; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 2 Peter 3:11
 3. Defilement means loss (vs. 15a, 17) Mark 8:36; Luke 6:49; 1 Corinthians 3:17

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE LIFE IS MORE THAN MEAT, AND THE BODY IS MORE THAN RAIMENT.* Luke 12:23

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:1-23, 35-58

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 16:8-11; John 20:1-29

QUARTERLY THEME: The Patriarchs

TOPIC: CHRIST IS RISEN (Easter Lesson)

INTRODUCTION:

Our lesson lays before us in one chapter the complete story of the purpose of God in sending His beloved Son down upon the earth. It tells of His death, His burial and His resurrection. It points out how important each of these facts is to us today. It is so important for us to believe that Jesus came upon this earth and that He as God's Son paid the penalty for our sins. If we had to live continually under the weight of unpaid judgment, one that we would have to pay some time, this weight would become oftentimes unbearable. Now, by faith, we have the assurance that He went to the cross and paid the penalty for our sins.

This is not the end of the story because after He had paid this price He was raised up by the Heavenly Father and was seen by many of His disciples. He was victorious over death (sin) and through His victory we too can be victorious. Our victory is over sin through the power of the Holy Spirit which has been sent to be with us. We no longer need yield to evil speaking, evil desires, distemperment, lying, etc., but can now have power over them. We can be victorious even through death because He has promised us a life in eternity. We are changed from the physical fleshly body into a spiritual body if so be that we live in Him while on this earth.

GOLDEN TEXT: *AS IN ADAM ALL DIE, EVEN SO IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE.*

1 Corinthians 15:22

When God created man, it was in a form that could have existed eternally in close fellowship with God and in communion with Him. This was God's intent for man's creation. It is sad to note that when man was given the will to choose, that the choice was made to disobey God. Perhaps we may say that the intention to disobey was not planned or premeditated. Yet the penalty for this disobedience was of the most terrible nature. It lays before us the certainty of God's judgment of any disobedience of our own. The Word tells us that because of this one act all of the judgment of God came upon mankind. Likewise even in Jesus and only through Him, can all of this be forgiven that we may live again. The saddest point in a person's life is when he or she comes to a realization that, despite the best efforts, there is only sin continually. The most joyous occasion is when we realize that God will forgive and that through Christ these sins are paid for and through the Holy Spirit we can have **power** to overcome the sins we could not overcome before. We can then understand the preciousness of the words: "*But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" (Romans 6:23)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 14 – 20

- M. *The Gospel and the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
- T. *Christ is Risen. 1 Corinthians 15:12-23
- W. Order of the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28
- T. *Method of the Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:35-45
- F. *Assurance of Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58
- S. Pattern of Resurrection. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- S. Consummation of Resurrection. Revelation 22:1-7

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