Loving God - Worship Culture - Prayer

Scripture for next week will be Genesis 27 Sermons online at www.gracecc.net

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April 28, 2019
ME AND MY TWO SONS
Preached by Gerry Breshears
Genesis 25-26

I. WHEN REBEKAH DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE MOVEMENT IN HER, SHE INQUIRES OF THE LORD (22)
A. Two competing nations are competing in her womb
B. The older will serve the younger (2 Sam. 8:14; Amos 1:11-12; Mal. 1:1-2; Rom. 9:10-13)
1. This is about blessing and service,
not eternal salvation
2. Jacob over Esau (33:1-17)
3. Israel over Edom
C. God remains faithful to Israel even when they act like despisers

II. GOD AND DISQUALIFIED MEN
A. Esau, the despiser, lives for immediate pleasure (2 Tim. 2:22; Heb. 12:15-17)
B. Jacob, the deceiver, ruthlessly manipulates for his own advantage
C. No one is so messed up that they cannot be used by God

III. ABRAHAM AND ISAAC
A. The righteous men
1. Loyal to YHWH among the gods
2. Trust what YHWH says even when it makes no sense
3. Keep the way of YHWH by doing righteousness and justice
4. Look for provision in Messiah
B. Family stories shape lives
C. Faithfulness brings blessing

IV. FOR JESUS FOLLOWERS
A. (16) care and (17) pray for the troubles of others
B. God’s promise does not mean ease and comfort.
Trouble does not mean God has failed or abandoned us
C. We can despise God’s blessing by not living in peace with others
His promises and rejecting His way
D. Interpret our lives according to God’s story
E. Pursue peace with people and with God

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
1. Have you ever been given privilege? How did it make you feel? How did you handle the privilege?
2. God chooses for the younger, the widow, the orphan, the stranger, the poor. Many of us are not in one of those categories. If you are one of us, how does that make you feel?
3. Tell of a time when you gained benefit by deceiving someone. Why did you do it?
4. If you were Esau, would you have forgiven Jacob?
5. Isaac gave up privilege to gain peaceful relationship with Abimelech. Do you think that was timidity or wisdom?
6. Would you accept blessing from God if you know it meant conflict?
7. Where is the difference between apathy and waiting?

FILL IN THE BLANK
1. Violent, inquires, nations, blessing, service, eternal salvation, faithful
8. Edom, despiser, immediate, deceiver, own, messed, shape
15. Envy, care, pray, ease, comfort, failed, abandoned
22. Forfeit, despising, rejecting, God’s story
21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. 22 The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.
23 The LORD said to her,
"Two nations are in your womb,
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 time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.
27 The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. 28 Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.
Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.)
31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."
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32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"
31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first."
31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."
32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" 33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.
31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."
32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" 33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left.
31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."
32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"
33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.
34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.
21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.
The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.
The babies jostled each other within her, and she struggled, saying, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.
I. When Rebekah does not understand the _________
   movement in her, she ____________ of the LORD

ME & MY TWO SONS
I. When Rebekah does not understand the **violent** movement in her, she ___________ of the LORD.
I. When Rebekah does not understand the violent movement in her, she inquires of the LORD.
The LORD said to her,
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two peoples from within you will be separated;
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and the older will serve the younger."
The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."
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A. Two __________ are competing in her womb
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I. When Rebekah does not understand the _violent_ movement in her, she _inquires_ of the LORD.

B. The older will serve the younger.
I. When Rebekah does not understand the _violent_ movement in her, she _inquires_ of the LORD

B. The older will serve the younger

1. This is about _________ and __________, not __________________________

ME & MY TWO SONS
I. When Rebekah does not understand the violent movement in her, she inquires of the LORD.

B. The older will serve the younger.

1. This is about blessing and __________, not __________________.
I. When Rebekah does not understand the violent movement in her, she inquires of the LORD

B. The older will serve the younger

1. This is about blessing and service, not ___________________
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B. The older will serve the younger
   1. This is about **blessing** and **service**, not **eternal salvation**
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2. Jacob over Esau
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B. The older will serve the younger

1. This is about **blessing** and **service**, not **eternal salvation**

2. Jacob over Esau

3. Israel over Edom
11 Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand: 12 not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger."
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Why does Israel get the place of blessing?
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand:  

\[\text{11} \text{not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger."} \]

Why does Israel get the place of blessing?  
It is totally God's doing!
11 Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad — in order that God's purpose in election might stand: 12 not by works but by him who calls — she was told, "The older will serve the younger."
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Why does hate Esau before he is even born?
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand:  

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Genesis 25
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Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand: 

12 not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger."

13 Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Malachi 1

ROMANS 9
"I have loved you," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated"
"Yet I have loved Jacob, 3 but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." 4 Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.
"Yet I have loved Jacob, \(^3\) but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals."  \(^4\) Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

Why does hate Edom?
"Yet I have loved Jacob, 3 but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." 4 Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

Why does hate Edom? 
Because they keep on being wicked!
"Yet I have loved Jacob, ³but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." ⁴Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish."

How is Israel living?
"Yet I have loved Jacob, \(^3\) but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." \(^4\) Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

How is Israel living?
They keep on being wicked!
"Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

What is God's attitude to wicked Israel?
"Yet I have loved Jacob, \textsuperscript{3}but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." \textsuperscript{4}Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

What is God's attitude to wicked Israel? He continues to love them!
11 Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand: 12 not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Why does hate Esau before he is even born?
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad — in order that God's purpose in election might stand: 

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Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Why does hate Esau before he is even born? He doesn't — He hates wicked Edom
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger." Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Why does He love Israel even when they act like wicked Edom?
Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God's purpose in election might stand:  

not by works but by him who calls – she was told, "The older will serve the younger."  

Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Why does He love Israel even when they act like wicked Edom? He is faithful.
I. When Rebekah does not understand the **violent** movement in her, she **inquires** of the LORD

B. The older will serve the younger

1. This is about **blessing** and **service**, not **eternal salvation**
2. Jacob over Esau
3. Israel over Edom
I. When Rebekah does not understand the **violent** movement in her, she **inquires** of the LORD

B. The older will serve the younger

1. This is about **blessing** and **service**, not **eternal salvation**

2. Jacob over Esau

3. Israel over Edom

C. God remains __________ to Israel even when they act like _______
I. When Rebekah does not understand the **violent** movement in her, she **inquires** of the LORD

B. The older will serve the younger

  1. This is about **blessing** and **service**, not **eternal salvation**

  2. Jacob over Esau

  3. Israel over Edom

C. God remains **faithful** to Israel even when they act like ______
I. When Rebekah does not understand the violent movement in her, she inquires of the LORD.  
B. The older will serve the younger  
1. This is about blessing and service, not eternal salvation  
2. Jacob over Esau  
3. Israel over Edom  
C. God remains faithful to Israel even when they act like Edom.
II. God and disqualified men
When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.
24 When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. 25 The first to come out was red, and *his whole body was like a hairy garment*; so they named him Esau. 26 After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.
When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau’s heel, so he was named Jacob.
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24 When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. 25 The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. 26 After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.

and you shall bruise his heel

Gen. 3:15
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the __________, lives for ______________ pleasure
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the *despiser*, lives for _______________ pleasure
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the **despis**er, lives for **immediat**e pleasure
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the *despiser*, lives for *immediate* pleasure
   B. Jacob, the ____________, ruthlessly manipulates for his _____ advantage
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the _despiser_, lives for _immediate_ pleasure
   B. Jacob, the _deceiver_, ruthlessly manipulates for his _____ advantage
II. God and disqualified men
A. Esau, the **despiser**, lives for **immediate** pleasure

B. Jacob, the **deceiver**, ruthlessly manipulates for his **own** advantage
II. God and disqualified men

A. Esau, the _despiser_, lives for _immediate_ pleasure

B. Jacob, the _deceiver_, ruthlessly manipulates for his _own_ advantage

Let's start over

ME & MY TWO SONS
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the **despiser**, lives for **immediate** pleasure
   B. Jacob, the **deceiver**, ruthlessly manipulates for his **own** advantage
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the **despiser**, lives for **immediate** pleasure
   B. Jacob, the **deceiver**, ruthlessly manipulates for his **own** advantage
   C. No one is so ____________ that they cannot be used by God
II. God and disqualified men
   A. Esau, the *despiser*, lives for *immediate* pleasure
   B. Jacob, the *deceiver*, ruthlessly manipulates for his *own* advantage
   C. No one is so *messed up* that they cannot be used by God
Now there was a famine in the land
Now there was a famine in the land – besides the previous famine in Abraham's time – and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.
The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham."
4I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, 5because Abraham obeyed me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions."
III. Abraham and Isaac
   A. The righteous men
III. Abraham and Isaac

A. The righteous men

1. Loyal to YHWH among the gods
III. Abraham and Isaac
   A. The righteous men
      1. Loyal to YHWH among the gods
      2. Trust what YHWH says even when it makes no sense
III. Abraham and Isaac
   A. The righteous men
      1. Loyal to YHWH among the gods
      2. Trust what YHWH says even when it makes no sense
      3. Keep the way of YHWH by doing righteousness and justice
III. Abraham and Isaac
   A. The righteous men
   1. Loyal to YHWH among the gods
   2. Trust what YHWH says even when it makes no sense
   3. Keep the way of YHWH by doing righteousness and justice
   4. Look for provision in Messiah
7When the men of that place asked him about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," because he was afraid to say, "She is my wife." He thought, "The men of this place might kill me on account of Rebekah, because she is beautiful."
III. Abraham and Isaac
B. Family stories ______ lives
III. Abraham and Isaac
   B. Family stories shape lives
When Isaac had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked down from a window and saw Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah. So Abimelech summoned Isaac and said, "She is really your wife! Why did you say, 'She is my sister'?' Isaac answered him, "Because I thought I might lose my life on account of her."
Then Abimelek said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the men might well have slept with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."

So Abimelek gave orders to all the people: "Anyone who harms this man or his wife shall surely be put to death."
12 Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him. 13 The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. 14 He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him.
III. Abraham and Isaac

B. Family stories *shape* lives

C. Faithfulness brings _______ blessing
III. Abraham and Isaac

B. Family stories shape lives

C. Faithfulness brings envied blessing
21 Then they dug another well, but they quarreled over that one also; so he named it Sitnah. 22 He moved on from there and dug another well, and no one quarreled over it. He named it Rehoboth, saying, "Now the LORD has given us room and we will flourish in the land." 23 From there he went up to Beersheba.
24 That night the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham." 25 Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD.
III. Abraham and Isaac

B. Family stories shape lives

C. Faithfulness brings envied blessing
C. Faithfulness brings _envied_ blessing

D. Do all they can to live in peace with others
IV. For Jesus Followers
   A. ______ and ______ for the troubles of others
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. *Care* and ______ for the troubles of others
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. Care and pray for the troubles of others
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. **Care** and **pray** for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean _____ and _______.
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. Care and pray for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean ease and ________.
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. Care and pray for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean ease and comfort.
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. **Care** and **pray** for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean **ease** and **comfort**. Trouble does not mean God has __________ or ______________ us
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. Care and pray for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean ease and comfort. Trouble does not mean God has failed or __________ us
IV. For Jesus Followers

A. Care and pray for the troubles of others

B. God's promise does not mean ease and comfort. Trouble does not mean God has failed or abandoned us
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can _______ God's blessing by ___________
   His promises and _____________ His way
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by __________
   His promises and _____________ His way
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by **despising**
   His promises and __________ His way
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by **despising** His promises and **rejecting** His way.
IV. For Jesus Followers
   C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by **despising** His promises and **rejecting** His way
   
   D. Interpret our lives according to ____________
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by **despising** His promises and **rejecting** His way

D. Interpret our lives according to **God's story**
IV. For Jesus Followers

C. We can **forfeit** God's blessing by **despising** His promises and **rejecting** His way

D. Interpret our lives according to **God's story**

E. Pursue peace with people and with God
Give thanks to the LORD and praise His name. For the LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.