

# The Twins

**TEXT: Gen. 25:19-24**

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. AS IN ALL OLD TESTAMENT STORIES, THERE ARE SOME LESSONS.
1. The 1<sup>st</sup> has to do with **prayer**.
  2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> has to do with **children**.
  3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> has to do with **Esau's profane attitude**.
- B. WE MAY BENEFIT FROM STUDY OF JACOB AND ESAU.

## I. PRAYER WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THEIR LIVES(vs. 21).

- A. FAMILY PRACTICE ( **Gen. 12:8; 14:22; 18:22** ).
1. An expression of trust ( **Heb. 11:8-10** ).
  2. We share in that trust ( **Gal. 3:6-7** ).
- B. WE EXPRESS OUR FAITH IN PRAYER AS WELL ( **Luke 18:1; James 5:16** ).
- C. **1 Thessalonians 5:17**.

## II. CHILDREN IN ISRAEL ( vs. 21 ).

- A. THE PRAYER OF ISAAC ... FOR CHILDREN.
- B. RACHEL'S COMPLAINT ( **Gen. 30:1; 33:5** ).
- C. HANNAH'S LAMENT ( **1 Sam. 1:4-11, 20** ).
- D. THE PROMISE ( **Gen. 12:1-3** ).
- E. ATTITUDES REFLECTED IN PSALMS AND PROVERBS:
1. **Psa. 113:1-2, 9; 127:3-5; 128**.
  2. **Proverbs 17:6**.

## II. CONTRAST OF JACOB AND ESAU.

- A.
1. Esau means "hairy."
  2. Esau was an outdoorsman.
  3. Esau favored by Isaac.
  4. Esau came first.
  5. Esau married a Canaanite.

1. Jacob means "supplanter."
2. Jacob was a quiet man.
3. Jacob favored by Rebekah.
4. Jacob received firstborn's portion.
5. Jacob married from the daughters of Laban, his uncle.

### B. ESAUS'S PROBLEM:

1. He was profane ( **Heb. 12:16-17** ).
2. "the primary sense is "that may be trodden." Compare the Latin: profanus, "before the temple," on the ground outside. What is permitted to be trodden by people at large is "unhallowed, profane." Esau is called *bebeelos* (NT:952) in **Heb 12:16**, as one who **did not regard his birthright as sacred**, but as something to be **sold in order to supply a common need.**" (Vincent - 1 Tim 1:9)

Esau's thinking was earthbound – profane. To him the blessings of the future seemed unreal and thus he did not appreciate his birthright. Pottage is needed and good, *but he despised his birthright*.

3. We ought not to be "profane," despising OUR birthright.

- a. Consider the result of Esau's worldliness ( **Heb. 12:17** ).
- b. This world is not lasting ( **Matt. 6:19-21; 1 John 2:15-17** ).
- c. If we are diligently trying to serve God, he will care for us ( **Matt. 6:33** ).
- d. We must not profane our birthright ( **Heb. 10:28-31** ).
- e. It is worth everything ( **Matt. 13:44-46** ).
- f. Jesus comes first ( **Luke 14:26** ).
- g. How good is our aim ( **Col. 3:1-4** ).

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. ARE YOU LIKE ESAU? WE HOPE NOT!
- B. YOU MUST DO ALL TO OBTAIN.
- C. YOU MUST PROTECT YOUR INHERITANCE.