

Genesis Ch. 27

V: 1 It seems that as Isaac is presented here he is older and seemingly more feeble, he is 137 years old. He is not as close to death as he thinks, he will actually live for another 43 years to when he dies at 180. (Ishmael died at 137)

Ecclesiastes 9:12 “*For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.*”

Genesis 25:26 Isaac is 60 years old when Jacob & Esau are born.

Genesis 26:34 Isaac is 100 years old, when Esau takes two wives @ 40.

Genesis 35:28-29 Isaac is 180 years old at his death.

Genesis 30:24 Joseph is born.

Genesis 30:25 Jacob wants to leave, and go home with his wives & children, now he works for cattle / wages 6 more years.

Genesis 31:38 Jacob has been gone from home for 20 years when he begins to return.

Genesis 31:41 7 years for each wife, 6 years for the cattle.

Genesis 37:2 Joseph is 17 or so years old when he is sold into slavery.

Genesis 41:46 Joseph is 30 years old when he is appointed 2nd in Egypt, after which there are 7 years of plenty, and 7 years of famine.

Genesis 45:11 2 years into the famine (5 left to go) Jacob is beckoned to Egypt with the remainder of his family.

Genesis 47:9 Jacob is 130 years old when he stands before Pharaoh.

- When Jacob is 130, Joseph is 39. (30 + 7 + 2)
 - Jacob is 91 years old when Joseph is born to him from Rachel.
 - Joseph was born after Jacob had been with Laban 14 years (7 for each wife), and as he agreed to work for Laban for cattle (6 years).
 - Jacob was 91 when Joseph was born, 14 years prior he left home at 77 years old. Isaac was 60 years old when Jacob was born, meaning he was 137 (60 + 77) years or so old as this chapter opens.
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“... and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see...”

2 Corinthians 5:7 “*For we walk by faith, not by sight.*”

- Isaac was blind physically, but he continued trying to see through his physical eyes instead of allowing the Spirit to guide him by faith.

Paul tells us:

1 Corinthians 13:12 “*For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*”

- When we're face to face with Jesus and we see oh so clearly, it will not be with physical, or fleshly eyes – it will be with spiritual eyes, faith filled eyes – by faith.

Consider the verse prior to **1 Corinthians 13:12**

1 Corinthians 13:11 “When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.”

- When I matured, I put away seeing through the eyes of my flesh, and I began to see through spiritual eyes, faith filled eyes – “**walking by faith, not by sight.**”
- Isaac is suffering from both physical and spiritual blindness in part, but God is going to bring him a wake up call here shortly.

V: 2-4 Esau sold his birth right for a bowl of soup, now Isaac ups the ante and is going to sell the blessing for some venison.

- Isaac is intent on giving the blessing to Esau knowing that God intended it for Jacob.
- Esau’s weapons: “**thy quiver and thy bow...**”

Speaking of the Anti-Christ:

Revelation 6:1-2 “¹And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, come and see. ²And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”

Ephesians 6:11-12, 16 “¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” – “¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”

Hebrews 12:16 “Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau...”

1. Esau had grieved his parents in his marriages, not waiting on the Lord, taking pagan wives – and only God knows what else.
2. All of which would seem to have corroborated, or confirmed the word, the prophecy that God had given to Isaac & Rebekah:

Genesis 25:23 “And the Lord said unto her, two nations are in they womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.”

- Make me some savory meat – please son – feed my flesh....

V: 5-7 Rebekah overhears the conversation, kind of like Sarah when the Lord came to visit Abraham with two angels.

- Rebekah knows the prophecy of the Lord, just as Isaac does. It appears that she's going to help her husband do the right thing, even if he doesn't know it.
- She doesn't understand that God's perfect will would be accomplished regardless of her or Isaac's involvement.

V: 8-12 Rebekah hatches a deceptive plot.

- Jacob is willing to play along, not so concerned about the deception as with possibly getting caught.
- Neither is trusting in God's plan or His promise – they are just as blind as Isaac.
- God's blessing is true whether Isaac speaks the words or not.
- This could also be a way of preventing Isaac from sinning further, preventing him from going against God's will – bringing him to his senses:
 1. Isaac trembled physically when he learned the truth.
 2. Rebekah and Jacob are not rebuked for their actions, although later they each suffered the consequences of their actions.
 - a. Rebekah never saw Jacob again after he left to visit her brother.
 - b. Jacob was abused and deceived by Laban, getting a dose of his own medicine.
- In the end, Jacob was blessed just as God said he would be.

V: 13-18 Together they execute the plan, faking the food and putting on the disguise, taking advantage of both Isaac's physical and spiritual blindness.

V: 13 “Upon me be thy curse...” – sad words that were later fulfilled.

- Rebekah never saw her favorite son again, or her many grandchildren.

V: 14 Rebekah could fix goat meat to taste just like venison – no real need for Esau to go out and hunt.

V: 15-16 Esau's clothes, some hairy animal skins.

V: 17-18 The final ingredient, savory meat.

“and the bread”

- Jacob obtained the birth right which his brother despised for a bowl of soup. As Jacob serves Esau the bowl of soup he serves him both bread and the soup.
- Here again as he is about to receive the blessing, this time through trickery, we see Jacob serving, and again he is serving bread.
- Eventually we see Jesus, the bread of life, who comes through Jacob's lineage and descendants.
- We'll see the fruition of God's promises through Jacob, which is an important thing to remember as we read through this incident.

“... who art thou, my son?”

- Isaac knows that it's one of his sons, but not which one.
- Isaac doesn't display much discernment.

V: 19-20 Jacob outright lies to his father, seeking – striving for the blessing.

- One lie usually begets another.

“How is it that you found it so quickly my son? Because the Lord thy God brought it to me.”

- Invoking God's name, making the lie worse...

V: 21 Isaac is in some way suspicious – wanting to feel his son.

- Isaac's feelings didn't lead him to the truth, they deceived him.
- Feelings do that.

The Word though, that is truth:

John 17:17 *“Sanctify them by Thy Truth, Thy Word is Truth.”*

V: 22-27 Isaac cannot see physically or spiritually at this point.

- We have 5 senses: Sight, touch, smell, taste, and hearing.
- He's not listening to the still small voice within him that is giving him a check in the Spirit.

V: 22 Isaac says: “*the voice is Jacob’s, but the hands are Esau’s.*”

Critical test: do we believe the “word” or do we believe the “feeling”?

- Isaac is allowing his “feelings” to somehow trump the “word” which he heard.
- In so doing, Isaac is deceived.
- Often times we are deceived in the same manner, we allow our feelings and our emotions to override God’s word.
- Fear is one of many emotions, love can be also, these are often given precedence over God’s word.
- The resulting pain and heart ache would be so avoidable if we would just learn to trust in the Lord and obey His word.

Psalm 119:165 “Great peace have they that love thy law, and nothing causes them to stumble.”

Psalm 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not upon your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path.”

Isaiah 30:21 “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”

2 Peter 1:2-3 “²Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ³according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”

From: The Marketing of Evil by David Kupelian

- Marketing Multiculturalism – using our emotions against us to accomplish their agenda.

(Pages 99-101 as marked / quoted below.)

The Marketing of Evil by David Kupelian

“It’s easy to blame 60’s radicals, university Marxists, cowardly politicians, and an elitist press for today’s multicultural madness. But the fact is, millions of Americans have bought into it. Why?”

The Marketing of Evil by David Kupelian

Isn't it obvious? Since the 1960's, America – from her government to her schools and even to her churches – has steadily fallen away from the Judeo-Christian values that previously illuminated and gave life and strength to the nation's institutions. This is equivalent to turning out the country's lights. And when you turn out the lights, everything looks the same in the dark – that's multiculturalism.

Moreover, no longer guided by universal standards of right and wrong, Americans have had nothing more reliable than their own feelings to guide them in the moral realm. And as modern marketing well knows, when people are operating primarily on the basis of feelings and emotions, they're wide open to every sort of imaginable manipulation.

Marketing is the application of the knowledge of human psychology to the task of persuasion. And what psychology has taught the marketing world is that the most powerful persuasion of all takes place not through above-the-board appeals to reason but by directly targeting the emotions.

By way of illustration, cigarettes were once sold on the basis of "great taste" and "fine tobacco." Not all that convincing, but then there aren't a whole lot of features and benefits to sell with cigarettes. Then along came the Marlboro Man. Created in 1955 for Philip Morris company by advertising giant Leo Burnett, this icon of the quintessential American cowboy is probably the most famous brand image to appear in our lifetimes. The rugged, masculine trademark made Marlboro the world's best selling cigarette.

What does the Marlboro Man – a rancher on a horse – have to do with cigarettes? Nothing, except that the ubiquitous (ever present) cowboy evoked within millions of men feelings of masculinity, independence, wide open spaces, and freedom. So successful has been the decades old campaign that on some ads the image is reduced to a little more than a saddle and a splash of red, but – like Pavlov's bell – it still subtly makes people salivate for the mythical place called Marlboro Country.

For the last generation, commercial marketing has aimed not so much at extolling the intrinsic value or usefulness of a product to consumers but rather at conditioning the consumer to associate the product with a particular feeling. [*A politician and a mythical time period - Camelot*] Bottom line: if the marketer can elicit in you a feeling – the right feeling – he has won. Game over.

With this principal in mind, let's look at how the public is so easily persuaded to abandon long-held loyalties. How are people so readily convinced that Columbus, a national hero for five hundred years, as well as the Pilgrims, revered and studied by generations of schoolchildren, were actually genocidal racists? How are our former sentiments opposing homosexuality or Wicca so easily transformed into "enlightened tolerance and open support? Pick a topic – let's say, same sex marriage.

Imagine you're participating in a televised one-on-one debate. You're defending traditional marriage. Facing off against you is a lesbian. But not just any lesbian. An

The Marketing of Evil by David Kupelian

attractive, young, eloquent, educated, sensitive, well-dressed lesbian – and to all appearances a fine human being. She looks you in the eyes and says, in a disarmingly mainstream and reasonable tone: “I love my country (patriotism), I obey it’s laws and I pay my taxes (reasonable citizen). I’m an American, and have all the same rights you do (appeal to fairness). In fact, I’ve served my country in the military and have put my life on the line. (she’s a veteran!) I’ve lived monogamously with my partner for eighteen years. (Loyalty) We truly love each other and want nothing more than to be married and to live out our lives in peace and happiness – just like you. (True love!) What’s the matter with that? Why shouldn’t we be allowed to be married? How does it hurt you? (Personal intimidation)

You have thirty seconds to respond before the commercial break. How can you neutralize the powerful, positive emotions your opponent has skillfully evoked? Will you offer up a statement about the dangers of altering the traditional definition of marriage? Will you point out that children do better with both a mother and father? Will you say the Bible clearly condemns homosexual acts?

The debate will be won by whoever conjures up the strongest emotions of sympathy in the audience. Therefore, unless you’re an extraordinarily gifted and charismatic debater – you lose. And when you lose, millions of people out in TV land are pulled a few inches further away from the commonsense values and a few inches closer to embracing, or at least resigning themselves to accepting, same sex marriage.”

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- The only thing we can say is – “the Word of God says...”
 - It’s a spiritual battle, not a marketing battle, or “common sense” type battle.

2 Corinthians 10:4 “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;”

- It all comes back to God’s word:

Proverbs 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”

Proverbs 28:26 “He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.”

- **Our reliance has to be in God’s word!**

Again:

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not upon your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path.”

Psalms 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

V: 24 There is doubt in Isaac's mind, he asks directly – and Jacob lies again.

- Isaac believes because he's already been deceived.

V: 25 Jacob brings the venison, but he brings it with bread and with wine:

- The elements of communion, the same elements that Melchizedek brought to Abraham, the same elements that Jesus offered to his disciples as a reminder of his sacrificial death on the cross for our sins.
- Jacob doesn't yet realize all of what he's doing, but he is doing that which he has a capacity for – and God will bring him to that realization as he continues to walk and grow in the Lord.

V: 28-29 The blessing:

“God give thee”

- God had promised to bless Abraham & Isaac, that their descendants would be like the stars of the heavens, that they would inherit the land all about, and that he would protect them.
- Isaac had also been blessed with the harvest / 100 fold – probably continuing past the time with Abimelech, so he adds that to the blessing for his son.
- Isaac incorporates the prophecy received from the Lord about the two sons into the blessing – but seeks to reverse it to Esau – which back fires.

V: 30-31 The two brothers practically pass each other.

- Esau prepares the venison and approaches his father.
- Something is different / missing: There is no bread, and no wine.
- Jacob brought these things which remind us of the “bread of life” and the blood that was poured out for our sin – our Lord Jesus. (VV 17 & 25).
- Jacob was exercising his birthright whether he knew it or not – but Esau has no capacity for these things, no capacity for Jesus.
- These elements are missing from his life and he can't give what he doesn't have.

Revelation 2:7 “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;...”

To those that have a capacity to hear, hear.

V: 32-33 Isaac exercises no more spiritual discernment with Esau than he did with Jacob.

- As Esau speaks and identifies himself – “Isaac trembles exceedingly”
- God’s wake up call has just arrived.

The Bible tells us:

Numbers 32:23 “... and be sure your sin will find you out.”

- Isaac sought to defy God’s will, and to contradict God’s word – and God wouldn’t allow it – and now Isaac knows it!

“yea, and he shall be blessed.”

Psalm 138:2 “I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy name for Thy lovingkindness and for Thy truth: for Thou hast magnified Thy word above all Thy name.”

Isaiah 55:11 “So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

V: 34 Esau wines and begs, cries a great and exceeding bitter cry – but to no avail.

V: 35 There is bitterness in Isaac’s heart as well: he describes Jacob not only in negative terms, but that he took “thy” blessing – Esau’s blessing – which is not true – it was Jacob taking Jacob’s blessing – that God gave him.

- Just after Abraham died, God visits Isaac, God appears to Isaac and speaks to him – blessing him.
- We don’t read about Abraham blessing Isaac with God’s blessing.
- Even if there were that type of blessing – ultimately God is the one who blesses, not man.

V: 36 Esau sniveling: “he took away my birthright” – nope: sold that which he despised for a bowl of soup.

- God gave Jacob the birth right even before they were born – still unacknowledged by either Isaac or Esau.

V: 37-40 We don’t see repentance on the part of either man, just a resignation to the facts.

V: 40 The bitterness of Isaac's heart has warped his thinking:

"... it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck."

- Guess what? According to God's word – that is never going to happen.

Hebrews 12:15-16 ¹⁵"Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; ¹⁶Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright."

V: 41 Esau hated his brother, and intended to murder him.

Galatians 5:22-23 fruit of the Spirit:

Galatians 5:19-21 ¹⁹"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

"... Esau said in his heart,.." It always starts as in issue of the heart, then it's words, then it's actions.

Jesus told us:

Matthew 12:34 "... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

- That is why Jesus always dealt with the issues of the heart.

V: 42-45 Rebekah again intervenes – devising a plan to save Jacob.

- All based on fear, not trusting in God's promise to multiply or protect Jacob and his descendants.
- Fear is never a good basis for a decision.
- Sound decisions are based on God's word.

2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

V: 46 Sets the next plan in motion, to send Jacob to Laban for a bride.

- Jacob's deceitfulness will eventually be repaid to him many times over by uncle Laban – who is a master of the craft.
- As much as we can see Jacob's faults, the only time he is rebuked is by Esau & Laban.
- Whenever God speaks to Jacob it is to bless him.

Isaiah 55:8-9 “⁸For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”