



**Message 12-2-17**  
**VaYishlach-And He Sent**  
**Genesis 32:4-36:43**  
**Obadiah 1:1-21**  
**Hosea 11:7-12:12**  
**Revelation 3:17-22**

**Introduction**

Isaac dies at the age of 180, and Jacob and Esau bury him. The Parashah ends by listing Esau's descendants.

**Genesis 36:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> These are the generations of Esau (that is, Edom). <sup>2</sup> Esau took his wives from the Canaanites: Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, Oholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite, <sup>3</sup> and Basemath, Ishmael's daughter, the sister of Nebaioth. <sup>4</sup> And Adah bore to Esau, Eliphaz; Basemath bore Reuel; <sup>5</sup> and Oholibamah bore Jeush, Jalam, and Korah. These are the sons of Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan. <sup>6</sup> Then Esau took his wives, his sons, his daughters, and all the members of his household, his livestock, all his beasts, and all his property that he had acquired in the land of Canaan. He went into a land away from his brother Jacob. <sup>7</sup> For their possessions were too great for them to dwell together. The land of their sojournings could not support them because of their livestock. <sup>8</sup> So Esau settled in the hill country of Seir. (Esau is Edom.) (ESV)

In some ways the story of Esau and Jacob mirror that of Lot and Abraham. In this week's Torah portion, we are told that Lot packed up everything he had and moved away from his brother Jacob because their possessions were too great for them to dwell together. Esau moved to the hill country of Seir. As the passage closes it emphasizes that Esau is also known as Edom. He would be the father of the Edomites who would become enemies of Israel. Brother against brother seems to be the common thread regarding Israel and its relatives. Israel, as a nation, seems to attract an inordinate amount of attention for its size and population. Then again, it exists amid countries that only want to destroy it because of who they are and what they stand for. Sadly, for those nations that choose to stand against Israel the only outcome for them will be destruction by the hand of the Almighty One!

When Jacob was returning to the land of Canaan Esau was coming to meet him with four hundred men. This was not a welcoming party. We would have to assume that Esau wanted to protect what he had accumulated in the land of Canaan during the years Jacob

was away. On top of that Esau knew that Jacob had the inheritance of the firstborn, given to him by Esau for a bowl of lentil stew. He also knew that Jacob had the blessing of the first born and that he had nothing that entitled him to remain in the Promised Land. Perhaps it was because he knew this that he knew he had to move on and not Jacob. His descendants would do otherwise and like others, Ishmael, Lot's descendants, etc. they would make it their life's work to wipe out Israel and they have tried, repeatedly. They are still trying to do this in our day and age. Esau had even married one of Ishmael's daughters, most likely to please his parents who did not approve of his Canaanite wives. Though Isaac and Ishmael had come together to bury their father Abraham they dwelt separate from one another and they did not have a close relationship most likely due to Abraham needing to protect Isaac, at Sarah's insistence, had Abraham send Ishmael and his mother away. Abraham was very conflicted about doing this and sought out God's advice and He affirmed for Abraham to do as Sarah had asked. God said He would watch over the boy.

This has been the history of Israel prior to becoming a nation and after they became a nation. God chose them to be His people and they disappointed Him over and over, yet He still loved them and refused to break covenant with them no matter what anyone might say otherwise. I say, show me from Scripture, where God tossed Israel aside and replaced them with another nation? On top of that please show me where God changed His covenant with Israel?

**Exodus 34:27** And the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for in accordance with these **words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.**" (ESV)

**Psalms 105:10** which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant. (ESV)

**Hebrews 8:10** "FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY TORAH INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE [Jeremiah 31:33]. (NAU)

#### **Hosea 12:1-6**

1 Ephraim feeds on the wind and pursues the east wind all day long; they multiply falsehood and violence; they make a covenant with Assyria, and oil is carried to Egypt. <sup>2</sup> The LORD has an indictment against Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways; he will repay him according to his deeds. <sup>3</sup> In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his manhood, he strove with God. <sup>4</sup> He strove with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought his favor. He met God at Bethel, and there God spoke with us-- <sup>5</sup> the LORD, the God of hosts, the LORD is his memorial name: <sup>6</sup> "So you, by the help of your God, return, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God." (ESV)

God has a problem with Ephraim and Judah, the two kingdoms that came out of Solomon's sin against God. They were both guilty of similar sins and God would hold them accountable but He never throws them away. He made an everlasting covenant

with Israel and if God were to break the covenant, as man did, then God could not be who He is and make the claims about Himself that He does and sets the way in the darkness for mankind to find their path.

**Micah 6:8** He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (ESV)

What is that God wants from us? Simply put in Micah 6:8 it is justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. It seems reasonable what God wants us to do but we struggle with it. It is a real struggle to do what God asks us to because it runs contrary to what the world leads us to do. We always should keep in mind that the Adversary rules this world – HaSatan or Satan is his name. He was given the earth to rule until such a time that the Father decides to send His Son Yeshua back. Many Believers think that it is difficult to rebuke Satan so they come up with these elaborate rituals when Scripture is our guide.

**Jude 1:9** But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, **did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"** (NAU)

The archangel Michael, the angel who is the protector of Israel, simply told Satan “The Lord rebuke you!” Isn’t that enough to fight off the temptations that come against every single day? Why is it we go into such detail when we pray? Perhaps it is because we need to hear ourselves say the things we have done that have caused us to go against the covenant of Torah which in turn cause us to bring our salvation into question, when we can repair the problem by acknowledging our sins and asking Messiah to help us get back on track. Maybe we need to ask the *Ruach HaKodesh* to help us? The Holy Spirit dwells within us to help us if we allow ourselves to listen. Maybe that is what we call our conscious when we hear this small voice inside of us telling us not to do that? I am not making definitive declarations here but suggestions, based on Scripture, about how to work out our problems.

Had Israel done this as a community perhaps things might have turned out differently but then again God has a plan and His plan is the one that will work itself out through mankind. I was somewhat bummed out that Messiah did not return this year at Yom Teruah. None of the Fall Moedim came to fulfillment, so we have to wait another year but it is quite possible that we have been given more time to work on ourselves as well as doing our best to be examples of what God desires in His people to show to those around us. They probably do not understand but we might be able to plant a seed that others will start to ask questions.

### **Revelation 3:17-22**

**17** For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that

you may see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. <sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. <sup>21</sup> The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the congregations." (ESV)

There are rich people in this world who believe that money can get them anything they want. We read about it every day and some of us may even see it in action. The word says that those who are rich believe they need nothing but the Lord says they are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. That's not a glowing description people. We are told to buy from God gold refined by fire and white garments. Water is simply a temporary measure to declare one's intentions to follow Messiah when it is fire that refines removing the impurities from within us. While the Lord sent a flood in Noah's day because of what mankind was doing, the truth is sin was not destroyed because eight people came through the flood only to bring sin back to a new world that had been washed clean with water. Sin was on board the ark and came through it all untouched only to spring into action when Noah got drunk and Ham ridiculed his father.

Whatever it is you think Ham did, we are not told in Scripture. All we know is that when Noah became aware of what his son had done he did not curse Ham he cursed his grandson Canaan. The curse would be that Canaan and his descendants would serve the descendants of Shem and Japheth. Maybe the animosity that we see today and in the Bible between the nations that had dwelled in the land of Canaan came from their namesake Canaan who was cursed to be at odds with his brethren. Isn't that what is happening with us? We stand at odds with most of mankind because we try to walk out the covenant of Torah through our faith in Messiah Yeshua while the rest of mankind is following other gods that pale in comparison to the one true God. Our God offers us something no other god can. A living God versus gods of stone, wood, and more who serve the self-proclaimed god of this world Satan. Our God, through His Son Yeshua and the *Ruach HaKodesh* created that exists in the heavens and on this earth. What claims can Satan make other than he was cast down to the earth for rebelling against his Creator and taking one-third of the heavenly host with him.

Satan is already at a distinct disadvantage but refuses to accept the inevitable. He is a created being no matter what he claims. He serves God's purpose and probably doesn't even realize it.

**Isaiah 55:1** "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. (ESV)

This is what Messiah offers us from His Father to all who thirst and are hungry. Water without end that feeds our spirits if we allow Him to. Esau gave up his inheritance and lost his blessing of the first born. Once given the blessing cannot be taken back. Esau finally came to the point that he had to deal with what he had done. Sure, Jacob got him to give up his birthright for a bowl of lentil stew. But how much value did Esau place on that

birthright to do what he did? Yes, Rebecca had Jacob deceive Isaac into giving him the blessing of the firstborn. They did not have to do anything. It was his from before he was born. God would have taken care of it but then Jacob needed to learn some things about life and his relationship with God. He grew into the man of God he was destined to become. It wasn't an easy road but sometimes we wind up choosing the road that leads us down a winding path to the trials and tribulations of life. These are God's tests for us to see what choices we will make. Choose wisely my friends.

***Torah Man says: "Just as God asks not to be approached empty-handed, so, too, we can approach one another with offerings of respect, affection, and wonder. And then, like Jacob, we may feel ourselves encountering God in everyone we meet."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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