

Birthright Problems

Have you ever done something wrong out of a desire to do something good?

Read Genesis 25:19-34 (for background).

Read Genesis 27:1-46.

1. Why were Rebekah and Jacob so desperate to get Issacs's blessing?
 - a. God had promised Rebekah Jacob would be the acting firstborn.
 - b. Esau was too reckless, in their opinion, to receive the blessing.
 - c. Isaac was already about to bless Esau.
 - d. Jacob had technically already taken the birthright from Esau.
 - e. Jacob already knew he would be the father of the nation of Israel.
 - f. Isaac forgot about the promise God made regarding Jacob.
 - g. Jacob wanted revenge on Esau.
 - h. Other.

2. What was the master plan of this deception?
 - a. Take Isaac a replica of the stew Esau normally made.
 - b. Spilt the rights with Esau 50/50.
 - c. Wear fake skins to replicate the feel of Esau's hairy arms.
 - d. Pretend to be Esau and get the blessing.
 - e. Receive the complete birthright as Jacob.
 - f. Let Rebekah convince Isaac to give the rights to Jacob.
 - g. Never let Esau know of their deception.
 - h. Other.

3. Why was Isaac able to believe Jacob's deception?
 - a. He was deaf.
 - b. He was far-sighted.
 - c. He was blind.
 - d. God blinded him.
 - e. He couldn't taste the difference in the soup.
 - f. Esau was not home.
 - g. Jacob was an A-list actor.
 - h. Other.

4. What did Esau's "blessing" entail?
 - a. A curse.
 - b. He will never be rich.
 - c. He will be a wealthy landowner.
 - d. He will always have to fight to survive.
 - e. He and Jacob get 50/50 rights.
 - f. He will have to serve Jacob.
 - g. He will be able to break free from Jacob when he needs to.
 - h. Other.

5. What was the result of Jacob's actions?
 - a. He had to leave home.
 - b. He had to go into hiding in a nearby town.
 - c. His brother threatened his life.
 - d. He became the firstborn by blessing.
 - e. He never saw his mother again.
 - f. He founded the nation of Israel.
 - g. He fought a war against his brother.
 - h. Other.

6. Who is the "bad guy" in this story?
 - a. Jacob; because he deceived his father.
 - b. Esau; because he shunned his firstborn duties.
 - c. Rebekah; because she encouraged Jacob to use deception to fulfill God's promise.
 - d. Isaac; because he didn't remember to give Jacob the blessing in the first place.
 - e. Esau; because he threatened his brother with death when he found out.
 - f. Jacob; because he intentionally tricked his brother into giving up his birthright.
 - g. God; because he didn't make Jacob the firstborn in the first place.
 - h. Other.

7. Would Jacob still have received the firstborn blessing without his own intervention?

8. What does the story of Jacob and Esau teach us about redemption, even after we have made a mistake?