
Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Gen. 25:19-34	The birth of Esaw and Ya'aqob; Esaw sells his birthright
Tuesday:	Gen. 26:1-11	Yahweh's promise to Yitshaq; Like father like son (Yitshaq and Abimelek)
Wednesday:	Gen. 26:12-33	Abimelek and Yitshaq make an agreement
Thursday:	Gen. 26:34 - 27:40	Stolen blessing; Esaw arrives too late
Friday:	Gen. 27:41 - 28:9	Esaw wants to kill Ya'aqob; Ya'aqob is sent away

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will be covering the birth of Esaw and Ya'aqob as well as the stealing of the birthright and the blessing. Now, let's read Gen. 25:19-34; 27:1-45 & 28:1-5.

PARSHA POINTS

- Yitshaq was 40 (**arba'im**) years old when he married Ribqah - 25:20
- Yitshaq prayed to Yahweh to give his wife and him a baby and Yahweh answered his prayers - 25:21
- Ribqah was going to have twins - 25:24
- Esaw (Esau - meaning, 'hairy'), the firstborn, came out red and like a hairy garment - 25:25
- Ya'aqob (Jacob - meaning, 'holder of the heel' or 'supplanter') came out next, with his hand holding onto Esaw's heel - 25:26
- Yitshaq was 60 (**shishim**) years old when Esaw and Ya'aqob were born to Ribqah - 25:26
- Esaw grew up to be a hunter, while Ya'aqob stayed at home in tents near his mother and focused on learning - 25:27
- Yitshaq loved Esaw more, while Ribqah loved Ya'aqob more - 25:28
- After coming in from the fields hungry Esaw, (also known as Edom, meaning, 'red') wanted to eat Ya'aqob's red lentil stew - 25:29-30
- Ya'aqob asked Esaw to sell his birthright (**bekorah**) in exchange for some stew - 25:31
- Esaw sold his birthright to Ya'aqob - 25:33
- Ya'aqob then gave Esaw some red lentil stew and bread to seal the deal - 25:34
- Esaw did NOT value his birthright - 25:34
- Yitshaq asked Esaw to go out and hunt game so that he could bless him before he died - 27:1-4



- Ribqah was eavesdropping in on this conversation - 27:5
- Ribqah reported Yitshaq's plan to Ya'aqob, then she commanded Ya'aqob to cooperate with her scheme to fool Yitshaq into giving Ya'aqob the blessing (**berakah**) instead. He was to bring her 2 (**shtayim**) goats, which she would prepare in the way Yitshaq loved. She would then put it in Ya'aqob's hands and send him in to Yitshaq - 27:6-10
- Ya'aqob reminded his mother that Esaw was hairy and he was smooth - 27:11
- Ya'aqob was afraid he would end up with a curse instead of a blessing, but Ribqah exonerated him by saying the curse would go on her - 27:12-13
- After Ribqah cooked the meats that Ya'aqob had brought, she had Ya'aqob put on Esaw's best clothing, then covered his hands and neck with goats' skins to resemble Esaw - 27:14-16
- Ya'aqob entered his father's tent and declared that he was Esaw - 27:18-19
- Yitshaq questioned Ya'aqob about his quick arrival with the meal, then felt his arms to confirm that he truly was Esaw - 27:20-22
- Yitshaq still wasn't sure, so he asked Ya'aqob again if he truly was Esaw. Ya'aqob again declared that he was - 27:24
- Yitshaq ate the meal, then gave Ya'aqob his blessing - 27:25-29
- Shortly after Ya'aqob left with the blessing, Esaw came in with his meal, expecting to receive the blessing Yitshaq had promised him - 27:30-31
- Yitshaq told Esaw that he already ate the meal and gave the blessing to another - 27:33
- Esaw begged his father to bless him also - 27:34
- Yitshaq told Esaw that Ya'aqob had deceived him and had taken Esaw's blessing - 27:35
- Esaw confirmed the meaning of Ya'aqob's name, and recalled how he had first given up his birthright and now his blessing to Ya'aqob, who had grabbed his heel at birth - 27:35-36
- Esaw still wanted a blessing and pressed his father to give him one also - 27:37-38
- Yitshaq did give Esaw a blessing, but it was one that did NOT please Esaw - 27:39-41
- Esaw vowed he would wait until his father died, and then kill his brother Ya'aqob - 27:41-42
- Ribqah overheard what Esaw said and told Ya'aqob to flee to her brother and hide there for a few days until Esaw cooled down, and then she would send for him - 27:42-45
- Yitshaq sent Ya'aqob on his way with a command to marry a woman from his hometown, just as Abraham his father had done - 28:1-2
- Before Ya'aqob left, Yitshaq gave him a further blessing - one that stemmed from the blessing of Abraham: that he would be fruitful and inherit the land - 28:3-4
- Ya'aqob listened to the voice of both his parents and traveled to Paddan Aram, where his parents' family lived - 28:7



DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- What does it mean when it says that 2 nations were in Ribqah's womb? (25:23)
- What was the significance of Ya'aqob holding onto the heel of Esaw? (25:26)
- Discuss what a birthright is, and the consequences of what Esaw had done. (25:31-34)
- Do you think the plan to deceive Yitshaq was right or wrong? (25:22)
- Did Ya'aqob break the 9th commandment when he lied to Yitshaq? (27:20-24)
- Did Ya'aqob uphold the 5th commandment when he obeyed his mother? (27:14; 28:7)
- Is there a difference between bearing false witness and lying? (see Ex. 20:16) Is it ever okay to lie? Is it ever okay to bear false witness? Find Scriptural evidence. There are several accounts in Scripture where people lied to help Yahweh's people or to save them and Yahweh blessed them. (see Ex. 1:15-21, Jos. 2:1-21; 6:17, 25, Heb. 11:31) Discuss situations where lying would NOT be considered wrong in the eyes of Yahweh. There are several in the past parshas.
- Do you think that Yitshaq truly did NOT know that it was not Ya'aqob who was before him? (27:33-35)
- Discuss the 2 blessings Yitshaq gave and what they mean. (27:28-29, 39-40)
- We see that Yitshaq also gave instruction for his son Ya'aqob to marry a relative (1st cousin). Does Scripture condone or condemn this? Find Scriptural support. (28:2)

