

BIBLE WOMEN - REBEKAH - MOTHER OF JACOB

GENESIS 24:12-21

Lies and wrongdoing do not thwart the plans of God. Despite some bad decisions, God answered much prayer in Rebekah's life.

I. PROVIDENCE

- A. Eliezer of Damascus obeys Abraham GEN. 15:1-4
 - 1. He would have been the heir if not for Isaac
 - 2. Abraham sent him on a mission GEN. 24:1-8
 - 3. He PRAYED and God ANSWERED him. (vs. 14)
- B. We meet Rebekah for the first time GEN. 24:15
 - 1. Great-niece to Abraham / 2nd cousin to Isaac
 - 2. She was hospitable and hard-working
 - 3. She was beautiful (fair to look upon)
- C. She was DECISIVE and went GEN. 25:58 & 67

II. PREGNANCY

- A. Isaac PRAYED for children GEN. 25:21a
 - 1. Abraham had left all to Isaac (vs. 5)
 - 2. Isaac needed an heir / Rebekah barren (vs. 21b)
- B. And God ANSWERED Isaac's prayer (vs. 21c)

III. PRAYER

- A. Something odd about the twins in her womb GEN. 25:22
 - 1. They struggled / No sonograms or ultrasounds
 - 2. She went to the Lord in PRAYER
- B. And the LORD ANSWERED (vs. 23)

IV. PREFERENCES

- A. Jacob was her preferred son / Isaac preferred Esau
 - 1. As firstborn, Esau had the birthright (vs. 28)
 - 2. Esau sold his birthright for pottage (vs. 33)
- B. Esau was due the birthright and the blessing
 - 1. But Rebekah devised a plan to deceive Isaac
 - 2. Deceit: A family trait (Laban, Rebekah, Jacob)
- C. Esau murderous - don't respect persons (ACTS 10:34)

V. PROPHECY

- A. The elder DID serve the younger (OBAD. 1:1-9)
- B. God still answers prayer (2 CHRON. 7:14)
- C. God will still bring about His will GEN. 50:20

ACTS 10:34 - "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:"

OBAD. 1:1 - "The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle."

OBAD. 1:2 - "Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised."

OBAD. 1:3 - "The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?"

OBAD. 1:4 - "Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD."

OBAD. 1:5 - "If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? if the grapegatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes?"

OBAD. 1:6 - "How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up!"

OBAD. 1:7 - "All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him."

OBAD. 1:8 - "Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?"

OBAD. 1:9 - "And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter."

2 CHRON. 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."