

Genesis 27

The life of Isaac falls into three periods. During the first seventy-five years he is contemporary with his father. For sixty-one years more his son Jacob remains under the paternal roof. The remaining forty-four years are passed in the retirement of old age. Jacob and Esau are about 77 years old at this time.

1. What does Isaac want to do at this time?
2. Who should get the blessing?
3. Is Esau still living with his parents?
4. What is the purpose of fixing food?

When we consider, 1. That no covenant was deemed binding unless the parties had eaten together; 2. That to convey this blessing some rite of this kind was necessary; and, 3. That Isaac's strength was now greatly exhausted, insomuch that he supposed himself to be dying; we shall at once see why meat was required on this occasion.

5. Is Rebecca trying to be God's hand in this matter?
6. What is Jacob's part on this matter?
7. What almost trips up this deception?
8. What is included in the blessing?
9. What is Isaac's reaction to Esau's arrival?
10. What is Esau's reaction to this matter?
11. What is the blessing given to Esau?
12. What is Esau's attitude toward Jacob?
13. How does Rebecca save Jacob?

The history of Edom (Esau) was a perpetual struggle against the supremacy of Israel. Conquered by Saul, subdued by David, repressed by Solomon, restrained after a revolt by Amaziah, they recovered their independence in the time of Ahab. They were incorporated into the Jewish state, and furnished it with the dynasty of princes beginning with Antipater. But today are no longer in existence.