**Genesis Chapters 23, 25 – 27**

**Chapter 23 The Death of Sarah**

**Summary**

* She was 127 years old.
* She died in Hebron in the land of Canaan.
* Abraham’s grief and mourning reflect a dignity of soul as a man of God.
* Sarah is the only woman in scripture whose age, death and burial are recorded in scripture.
* Sarah was the venerable mother of the Hebrew people.
* Sarah is buried in the cave of Machpelah.
* The negotiation for the cave between Abraham and Ephron was successful.
  + The Cave
  + The Field
  + The break from his old country Paddan Aram.
  + Abraham was renouncing the old and was not a resident of Canaan.
  + Abraham would never return to Mesopotamia.
  + The property is the only part of the promised land that Abraham received and was obtained by purchase.
  + This bounds Abraham and his descendants to the land of promise.
  + Abraham took nothing: The Battle of the Kings
* The sale was public before the people of the Hittites.
* Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Leah would all be buried with Sarah in this cave.
* The cave eventually was controlled by Muslims and a mosque was built over it.

**Chapter 25 The Birth of Esau and Jacob**

VS 1-4

* Abraham was 137 when Sarah died.
* Abraham has a new wife – Keturah and concubine who bore his six sons.

VS 5 – 7

* Abraham gives all his possessions to Isaac.
* Abraham sends all the other children away with gifts.
* The other children would represent a potential threat the Isaac.
* Abraham also did this is Ishmael, the son of Hagar.

VS 8 – 10

* Abraham dies at the age of 175.
* He is buried in the cave of Machpelah with Sarah.
* Ishmael and Isaac buried their father together.
* Abraham’s bosom – Luke 16.
* There was a potential for trouble, however God was with Isaac.

VS 11-21

* The generations of Ishmael.
* 12 Princes are named by the name of their towns and castles.
* The Ishmaelites lived in hostility toward all their brothers (Gen 16:12).
* Ishmael dies at the age of 137.
* Rebekah is barren.
* Isaac prays and Rebekah conceives.

VS 22 – 28

* Two nations are in your womb.
* The older son will serve the younger son.
* Tensions between the Edomites (Esau) and Israel (Jacob) began in the womb.
* Esau came out first and was red and hairy.
* Jacob came out grabbing the heel of Esau.
* Esau was a skilled hunter.
  + A man of the field.
  + A man of strong appetites for the flesh (food).
  + A man who was worldly by nature.
* Jacob was a momma boy.
  + Among the tents.
  + A deceiver, deceitful, sly, insidious.
  + A manipulator.
* Isaac loved Esau.
* Rebekah loved Jacob.
* Romans 9:11-13

**Bypass of the First Born**

* Seth Cain
* Shem Japheth
* Isaac Ishmael
* Jacob Esau
* Judah/Joseph Reuben
* Moses Aaron
* David Over all his brothers

VS 29 – 34

* Bowl of soup for a birthright.
* Esau governed by the moment and by the flesh.
* Jacob gives the food for the birthright.
* Esau despised is birthright.

**Chapter 26 Summary**

* Parallels between Abraham and Isaac
* There is a famine in the land.
* Both plans to go to Egypt
* Both told to say in Gerar.
* Both called their wives their sister.
* Both had beautiful wives.
* Abimelech prevents from committing adultery.
* Abimelech rebukes both.
* Abimelech makes a covenant of peace with both Abraham and Isaac.
* Both are allowed to stay in the land of the Philistines.
* Both are enormously blessed.

**The covenant is renewed.**

* Material blessings
* Possession of the land.
* Prosperity.
* The nations of the earth will be blessed through him.

**The Wells**

* The herdsman of Gerar disputed the wells the Isaac dug.
* Finally, at the well of Rehoboth they were left alone.
* Isaac kept moving further and further away as a strategy for peace.
* Isaac builds an altar to the Lord at Beersheba.

**Chapter 27 The Stolen Blessing**

**Summary**

* Isaac is old and asks Esau to hunt and bring him his favorite meal.
* Mom overhears the conversation and puts together a plan.
* Although Jacob already had the birthright, Rebekah wanted him to receive the blessing.
* The father’s blessing is irrevocable.
* Isaac is to bring the food and pretend to be Esau.
* Jacob is fearful of getting caught but obeys his mother.
* Three times Isaac is suspicious and makes Jacob lie two times.
  + His identity
  + God gave him success.
* Isaac is still suspicious and demands to touch and smell Jacob.
* Isaac eats and then gives Jacob the father’s blessing.
* Esau arrives to discover the deception.
* Does not get a blessing.
* Purposes in his heart to kill Jacob when dad dies.
* Rebekah sends Jacob away to Laban – her brother.

**Everybody Loses**

* All were in some measure at fault.
* Isaac was not to bless Esau by God’s decree.
* Rebekah and Jacob stole God’s promised blessing by deception.
* The result was hatred and separation.
* Rebekah never saw the son she loved again.
* The family was effectively destroyed.
* Jacob would face life without his father, mother, and brother.
* God worked through all this disfunction and brought forth His divine plan despite us.