

Tol'dot – Generations/History

Genesis 25:19 – 28:9

Recall that today's portion is the latter half of a chiasm that extends from Genesis 21:8 – 28:4; the central focus of the chiasm is the selection of Rebekah as Jacob's wife. She, like the other matriarchs were barren; however, once God opened their wombs, they became fruitful (Genesis 11:30; 21:1; 25:21; 29:31; 30:22).

The same spiritual parallel is true of believers in Messiah by the power of the Ruach HaKodesh:

Romans 7:4-6 says, *"Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law (the original covenant was terminated; they lacked life/were barren) through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another (enter the new covenant with the same terms as the original) — to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were in the flesh (without the Spirit), the sinful passions which were aroused by the law (the desires to disobey the law) were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. 6 But now we have been delivered from the (desires to disobey the) law, having died to what (these lawless desires) we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit (live righteously by the power of the Ruach which bears fruit to life) and not (serve) in the oldness of the letter (not observe a written text without it being written on our hearts or not be without the Spirit to do what it says)."* (BCM)

Rebekah, like the other matriarchs were a picture of the bride of Messiah.

Tol'dot - Generations				
Esau & Jacob Part 1	Esau & Jacob Part 2	Ishmael & Isaac	Comments	Yeshua
Bareness; the birth of sons				
<p>Rebekah had been barren (עֲקָרָה); Isaac prayed for her to be healed. She conceived and there was a struggle within her.</p> <p>She inquired of YHVH who explained that two nations were inside her and that the older would serve the younger.</p> <p>Isaac was 60 years old when Rebekah gave birth to twins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esau (עֵשָׂו) was 		<p>Sarah was barren and gave her Egyptian maid, Hagar to Abraham to have children for her.</p> <p>Hagar gave birth to Ishmael (יִשְׁמָעֵאל – God will hear).</p> <p>God promised Abraham that Sarah would have a child, but Abraham laughed and said, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!" God said no,</p>	<p>Bareness is a picture of virginity.</p> <p>Even though Isaac and Abraham each had two sons while married to Rebekah and Sarah, respectively, only one of their sons was the one who was to have the birthright. That was Jacob and Isaac.</p>	<p>Yeshua was born of a virgin as the angel promised.</p> <p>Miriam (Mary) was a young virgin woman (she was a betulah [בְּתוּלָה] and an almah [עַלְמָה]).</p> <p>Yeshua was a descendant of King David who was</p>

red/ruddy (אֶדְמוֹנִי) and hairy (שָׁעָר) • Jacob (יַעֲקֹב) – his hand grabbed Esau’s heel (בְּעֵקֶב) when he was born		and that His everlasting covenant would be established with Isaac. God also heard Abraham’s request concerning Ishmael. When Abraham prayed for Abimelech’s house to be healed so the women could have children, Sarah was also healed and gave birth to Isaac . Recall Abimelech’s name means “my father is king;” it has double application. - Avi-Melech (king of Gerar) - Avi-Melech (king of Abraham; Yahweh)	Those who believe in Yeshua as Messiah becomes sons of God. They are a kingdom of priests and a holy nation unto God. They have the birthright. If they are obedient, they also enjoy blessings. We’ll soon mention what comes with the birthright.	described as ruddy (1 Sam 16:12), and with whom YHVH made an everlasting covenant (2 Sam 23:5; Psalm 89:3-4). Recall it was Esau who was described as “ruddy;” red healthy complexion.
Characteristics				
Isaac’s boys grew. • Esau was a man of cunning (אִישׁ יָדָע); a hunter (צֹדֵד, not just of animals/but of men [based on the word use, he was probably like Nimrod]); and a man of the field (אִישׁ שָׂדֵה) • Jacob was smooth-skinned; a plain man dwelling in tents (אִישׁ תָּם)	Comment from K&D on Genesis 10:6-20: <i>Hence, if the expression "a mighty hunter" relates primarily to hunting in the literal sense, we must add to the literal meaning the figurative signification of a "hunter of men" ("trapper of men by stratagem and</i>	Ishmael was a wild man; his hand would be against every man and every man’s hand against him. Ishmael grew and dwelt in the wilderness (בְּמִדְבָּר) and became an archer/shooter of arrows (רֹכֵב קִשְׁת). He dwelt in the Wilderness of	As a shooter of arrows, Esau was similar to Ishmael but only as it pertains to hunting for food. Isaac was probably similar to Jacob. They were probably shepherds. Just as Isaac was God’s choice	The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). The devil was a murderer and a liar from the beginning (John 8:44). Yeshua came that people might have life and have it

(יֵשׁוּב אֱחָלָיִם)	<i>force," Herder); Nimrod the hunter became a tyrant, a powerful hunter of men. This course of life gave occasion to the proverb, "like Nimrod, a mighty hunter against the Lord," which immortalized not his skill in hunting beasts, but the success of his hunting of men in the establishment of an imperial kingdom by tyranny and power.ⁱ</i>	Paran; and his mother took a wife for him from Egypt. (Gen 21:1-21) Only Isaac was described as the one God has chosen. Much later, he was described as "Abraham's only son, whom he loves." (Gen 22:1)	over Ishmael, Jacob was God's choice over Esau. Note that the glory of YHVH dwelled in the Mishkan (מִשְׁכָּן) in the wilderness and that our bodies are considered a tent of the Ruach HaKodesh. This makes Jacob comparable to the glory of YHVH or the Ruach HaKodesh. See how YHVH is choosing someone more like His own character?	abundantly. In contrast to Yeshua is the Anti-Messiah or False Prophet. He imitates Yeshua by performing great signs; he uses these signs to deceive those who receive the mark of the beast and those who worship his image (Rev 13:13-14).
Although God chose the 2 nd born over the firstborn to receive the covenant promises, the reason is not necessarily based on birth order. Recall that God chose David, the 8 th son of Jesse to be king. 1 Samuel 16:7 says, "But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."				
Love; death/near death; nourishment (food/water); birthright/blessing				
Isaac loved Esau (because of venison "in his mouth" [בִּפְיוֹ]) and Rebekah loved Jacob. Esau came in from the field and was weary/exhausted (felt near death) . He asked Jacob to feed him that very	When Isaac was old and could not see, he told Esau to take his quiver and bow and go out into the field and hunt game. He asked him to prepare the kind of savory food he loved , and bring it to him to eat that his soul could bless Esau before he died.	Hagar loved Ishmael. Sarah loved Isaac. Abraham loved both of them. When Hagar conceived Ishmael, she despised Sarah (qal of despised: qalal = קָלַל). Sarah insisted that	Lentil stew was often prepared for the family of those who were mourning the dead for 7 days. ⁱⁱ It is curious that Esau ate this as he felt he was close to death himself. Remember:	God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son (Yeshua), so that those who believe in Him should not perish might have everlasting life . (John 3:16)

<p>red stew/soup (הָאֵדָם הָאֵדָם הָאֵדָם)</p> <p>Jacob said “sell me your birthright (בְּכֹרֶתְךָ)”</p> <p>Esau felt he was at the point of death, and that his birthright was of no use/profit to him. Esau swore to give Jacob his birthright and sold it for a bowl of stew.</p> <p>Jacob gave him a bowl of lentil stew and bread to eat.</p> <p>Gen 25:34 says, Thus Esau despised (בִּזָּה) the birthright.</p> <p>At this stage, I can’t say he was disgusted by his birthright because he wished he had it later. A different Hebrew word could have been used if that were the case.</p> <p>This word בִּזָּה can mean he considered it of little worth; if he had died, it was of little worth to him.</p>	<p>Rebekah overheard their conversation and hatched a plan of deception so that Jacob could get Esau’s blessing.</p> <p>Jacob feared Isaac would see him as a deceiver and curse him instead of bless him. Rebekah said let the curse be on her instead. She dressed Jacob in Esau’s clothes and animal skins, and prepared the savory food (with goat meat instead of venison) that Isaac loved.</p>	<p>Abraham send Hagar and Ishmael away.</p> <p><i>Ishmael was Abraham’s firstborn and should have had the birthright of the firstborn but this was not God’s plan. It would be given to Isaac, the firstborn between Abraham and Sarah.</i></p> <p>When the water skin was used up, Hagar placed Ishmael under a shrub to die.</p> <p>God heard Ishmael’s voice and called out to Hagar. God promised to make him a great nation (a promise of life). (Gen 21)</p> <p>God promised to make Ishmael the father of 12 princes. (Gen 17:20)</p> <p>In contrast, Jacob would father 12 sons who would head the 12 tribes of Israel.</p>	<p>Obeying God’s commandments brings life and blessing, while disobedience brings curses and death. God’s law should not be despised or considered of little worth (בִּזָּה or קָלִיל); it brings life.</p> <p>God’s perpetual covenant went with the birthright (it included the priesthood, judicial authority, and double portion of the inheritance).</p> <p>YHVH determined who the birthright (including the covenant) would go to; He separated the males in the family and made His choice. In the future, He will judge and separate the nations into the sheep (the kingdom of priests who is blessed) and goats (who are cursed).</p>	<p>Yeshua was the true bread from heaven/of God/of life that gives life to the world. (John 6:32)</p> <p>Yeshua was the true vine (source of wine) that gives us the ability to bear fruit/life. (John 15”1-8)</p> <p>Yeshua was the source of living water (John 4:10-11; 7:37-38; see also Isaiah 55:1-3)</p> <p>(See also John 4:5-42)</p>
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Blindness/Seeing/Deception; Blessing; Wells				
<p>Isaac and Abimelech were in Gerar. Isaac said Rebekah was his sister for fear of his death. Abimelech realized Rebekah was Isaac's wife (saw the truth) and rebuked him for the deception. Abimelech commanded the people not to touch her. Isaac sowed/reaped in the land. YHWH blessed him and he became very prosperous. The Philistines envied him. Abimelech asked him to leave. He dwelled in the Valley of Gerar. He dug again the wells of Abraham that were stopped up by the Philistines. His servants found a well of running water</p>	<p>Jacob obeyed his mother and brought the food to his blind father and asked for his blessing.</p> <p>As a result of being deceived (which also causes a form of blindness), Isaac blessed Jacob instead of Esau. He would have prosperity and sustenance, and the ability to be master over the nations and his brothers. There would be curses for those who curse him.</p> <p>Esau wept and lifted up his voice when he heard the news. He asked for a blessing too.</p> <p>Esau said Jacob</p>	<p>Many years prior, Hagar fled from Sarah when she was pregnant with Ishmael; at that time the Angel of YHWH spoke to her by a spring;</p> <p>She called the name of YHWH "You Are the God Who Sees Me" [אֵתָהּ אֵל רֹאִי],</p> <p>and she called the well Beer Lachai Roi (בְּאֵר לַחַי רֹאִי). (Gen 16:7-14)</p> <p>At some point in the wilderness after Abraham sent her away, God opened her eyes, she saw a well of water, and gave Ishmael a drink. (Gen 21:19)</p>	<p>John 4:5-42: The woman at the well was blind to who Yeshua really was until he revealed His identity to her.</p> <p>Prior to that revelation, she eventually saw/perceived that He was a prophet.</p> <p>Once He reveals His identity as Messiah to her, she tells the people in her village. After He spends time with them, they see, believe, and are blessed too.</p>	<p>Mark 4:11-12 And Yeshua said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, so that 'Seeing they may see and not perceive, And hearing they may hear and not understand; Lest they should turn, And their sins be forgiven them.'"</p> <p>Luke 10:23-24 Then He</p>

<p>there. The herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's over the water [Esek (עֵשֶׂק) = strife]. They dug another well [Sitnah (שִׁטְנָה) = accusation] and they quarreled over that one too. He moved and dug another well [Rehoboth (רְחוֹבוֹת) = broad places; streets]...no quarreling. God made room for them.</p> <p>Isaac went to Beersheba. YHVH appeared to Isaac and promised to bless him and multiply his descendants. He built an altar there, called on YHVH's name, and pitched his tent there. Isaac's servants dug another well.</p> <p>Abimelech came to Isaac to make a covenant with him to do Abimelech no harm since he did good to Isaac and sent him away in peace. So they ate a feast, swore an oath to each other, and Abimelech and his men left in peace.</p> <p>Isaac's servants dug another well called</p>	<p>(וַיַּעֲקֹב) supplanted him (and he supplanted me; וַיַּעֲקֹבֵנִי) twice: he took Esau's birthright and blessing.</p> <p>Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing his father gave Jacob. He intended to kill Jacob after his father's death.</p> <p>Esau's wives caused Rebekah grief. She did not want Jacob to marry Hittites. She also wanted to protect Jacob from Esau.</p> <p>Rebekah encouraged Isaac to send Jacob away to Laban in Padan Aram to find a wife. He called Jacob, blessed him, and sent him away.</p> <p>Esau took the daughter of Ishmael as his wife in addition to the ones he already had.</p> <p>It has been said that Esau once again married again outside the family to spite his parents, but she would have been a distant relative related to Abraham. So he</p>	<p>Abimelech saw that God was with Abraham in all that he did (He saw God blessed Abraham). Abraham rebuked Abimelech over a well that Abimelech's servants had seized.</p> <p>Abraham and Abimelech made a covenant with each other. Abraham gave Abimelech seven ewe lambs as a witness at Beersheba (Gen 21:14 - 34)</p>		<p>turned to His disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; 24 for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."</p> <p>2 Cor 3:14-17 But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. 15 But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.</p> <p>The 7 ewe lambs given to Abimelech</p>
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<p>Shebah (שֶׁבַע = seven).</p> <p>The city is Beer-sheba (well of oath/seven; swear; as if by repeating a declaration 7 times).</p> <p><i>See the connection with the oath and 7 ewe lambs at this location.</i></p>	<p>may have been trying to please his parents instead of spite them.</p> <p>(Gen 28:1-9)</p> <p>Eventually, Jacob met his future wife at a well (Gen 29:1-30)</p>			<p>also represent Yeshua:</p> <p>Rev 5:6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.</p> <p>These 7 Spirits are witnesses of what happens on earth.</p> <p>See also: Zech 4:2-10</p>
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ⁱ Keil and Delitzsch Commentary on the Old Testament: New Updated Edition, Electronic Database. Copyright © 1996 by Hendrickson Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.

ⁱⁱ <http://www.torahclass.com/old-testament-studies/34-old-testament-studies-genesis/100-lesson-25-chapter25>