September 17

Isaac

Finding a Wife

A wife for Isaac had to be chosen from the relatives and not from the girls in the land of Canaan, where they now lived – Read: Genesis 24: 3, 4.

Abraham’s servant was sent to Northwestern Mesopotamia, to where Nahor, Abraham’s brother lived with his family. The servant arrived at the well outside the city where the women came to get water. The servant prayed for a way of knowing the girl that should be Isaac’s wife. Read: Genesis 24:14. Before he had said “Amen” a girl arrived, she offered the servant a drink and to water the camels. Just as he had wanted as the sign of the right girl!

The servant settled the idea of Rebekah becoming Isaac’s wife with the family and took her back to Isaac and she did indeed become Isaac’s wife.

Our spouses should also be from “the family” the family of God, not blood lines but from God’s love line! God will show us the right person as a spouse if we only ask and follow his lead.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 24:60

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to follow your will in all my life’s decisions.

September 18

Isaac

Esau and Jacob

Isaac and Rebekah were married when Isaac was forty years old. Rebekah was barren, Isaac prayed to God for children and Rebekah became pregnant.

We will receive blessings from God if we ask and have faith we will receive them!

Rebekah was carrying twins and there was a lot of struggle within her – Read: Genesis 25:22, 23.

The Lord is always ready and able to help us with our problems if we only ask.

Twins did arrive in Isaac’s household – Read: Genesis 25:25, 26.

Isaac and Rebekah waited twenty years for their children. They stayed faithful praying for the blessing of children. Patience is one of the hardest virtues to practice; the Lord works in his time not ours. Do you have the faith to ask and the endurance to wait patiently for the Lord?

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 25:24

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to remember you in my times of need but not to forget to thank you for the happy this and to praise your name.

September 19

Esau and Jacob

Anything for Food

The twins grew up, Esau, a skilled hunter and his father’s favorite because he enjoyed the food made from the animals Esau brought home. Jacob was quiet and helped his mother too, he was his mother’s favorite.

One day when Esau came back from a hunt, he was very hungry – Read: Genesis 25:30-33. In selling his birthright Esau was considered to be “godless” See Hebrews 12:16.

We should not be like Esau; we need to care about our inheritance, not our earthly inheritance from relatives etc. but our inheritance of the heavenly kingdom.

We need to depend on the Lord for our care and not sell our soul for riches or food.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 25:28

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to always be faithful, to know you will provide and not to sell my soul.

September 20

Isaac

At Gerar

Another famine struck Canaan, God instructed Isaac to stay in Canaan so Isaac received permission from Abimelech, King of the Philistines to live at Gerar.

Isaac did the same thing with Rebekah that Abraham had done with Sarah, telling everyone Rebecca was his sister and not his wife. Although this time when the King found out the truth it worked to Isaac’s advantage – Read: Genesis 26:16.

Isaac and his family went on living, planting and harvesting with the King’s permission and protection. The Lord blessed Isaac and he became a very rich man – Read: Genesis 26:16.

Isaac moved into the Valley of Gerar, there his servants dug wills the first two were argued about with the shepherds of Gerar, the wells were called words meaning dispute and opposition. Isaac moved away and dug another well with no arguments and this well was called Rehoboth or room. We all need to make room in our hearts for Jesus.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 26:23, 24

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for when we make room for us in our hearts, there will be blessings for us as well.

September 21

The Blessing

Jacob Blessed

The blessings of the future and family went to the eldest son, when Isaac became old and blind he was ready to give Esau his blessing. Isaac sent Esau out to the hunt and bring him the meat that he enjoyed so much.

Rebekah overheard the conversation between Isaac and Esau and devised a plan of her own. She sent Jacob to get a goat to be cooked, they dressed Jacob up in Esau’s clothes and used the goat skin to make Jacob’s smooth shin hairy like Esau’s because Jacob and his mother were about to deceive Isaac and Esau’s blessing for Jacob! The deception worked- Read: Genesis 27:27-29. This was to be Esau’s blessing by tradition, but this was God’s plan for Esau and Jacob that Jacob would receive the blessing.

Deception is an evil thing, we need to be careful in this life not to be deceived by the Devil and let evil come into our lives.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 27:22

PRAYER THOGHT: May I always realize your will and way for me that I will not be deceived by evil.

September 22

Evil Plans

Esau’s Revenge

Esau did return and took the meat to this father – Read: Genesis 27:30. Isaac and Esau discovered together that Jacob had deceived Isaac into giving the blessing to him instead of Esau. Esau was understandably bitter, this was the second time Jacob had cheated Esau out of what was rightfully his, although the first time was at Esau’s request.

Esau made plans to kill Jacob, his mother found out and talked to Isaac about sending Jacob back to their relatives to find a wife so Esau would have time to cool off. Isaac and Rebekah did not want Jacob marrying a Canaanite girl like Esau – Read: Genesis 27:46.

Jacob left Beersheba and started his journey to Haran; he left to escape his brother’s wrath, and to find a wife among the relatives, obeying his parent’s wish.

We can escape the wrath of man but not that of God’s judgment wrath will be inescapable! Read: Matthew 10:28. We need to live in fear and awe of God’s presence.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 28:2

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to obey you, my Heavenly Father and to be in your grace and not experience your wrath.

September 23

A Vision

Jacob’s Dream

Jacob was on the way to Mesopotamia, the first night; he lay down to sleep with his head on a stone. While he slept he had a dream – Read: Genesis 28:12-15. Jacob awoke the next morning and knew God had been there, he built a memorial and dedicated it to God – Read: Genesis 28:20-22.

We can also rely on God for protection, food and clothing. God is our protection even though we work and earn the money for our provisions God allows us to do so and is the provider.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Deuteronomy 23:21

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for the protection and provisions that you give me. Help me, O Lord, to keep any vow that I make to you.

September 24

Jacob

At Laban’s

Jacob arrived at Laban’s well at watering time, Rachel arrived with the flock – Read: Genesis 29:12, 13.

Jacob stayed for a month. Then Laban said that he should pay Jacob for his work but Jacob was in love with Laban’s younger daughter, Rachel. An agreement was made that Jacob would work for seven years, and then he could marry Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel so much that the time flew by!

The wedding celebration was held, but Jacob was tricked, when he woke-up the morning after the wedding he found the consummation had been with Leah, the oldest daughter and not with Rachel!

When Jacob asked Laban why – Read: Genesis 29:26-27. Jacob did receive Rachel for his wife and he loved her very much, Jacob worked another seven years willingly!

Our lives go by so very quickly, the love we have for the Lord, must be the reason our lives are joyful and go by so fast.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Genesis 29:28

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for all the joy and love you have given me, the meaning you have given my life.