

## “SOUL OR SOUP”

GENESIS 25:27-34

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### INTRODUCTION

Of the family members mentioned in this passage, whom do you think was mostly in the wrong? Jacob or Esau? Notice upon whom God puts the blame in v. 34.

He was living for the present—“The now generation.”

**THESIS: DON'T SACRIFICE THE PERMANENT ON THE ALTAR OF THE IMMEDIATE.**

Please notice the serious consequences of seemingly trifling events in this family story.

- I. THE ERROR OF **PREFERENCE** (28)—Isaac & Rebekah
- II. THE ERROR OF MISTRUST (29, 31, 33)—Jacob
  - A. A godly life (v. 27)—“perfect, complete”
  - B. Carnal effort at divine blessing
    1. He did value the birthright.
    2. He thought that he needed to “help” God in order to get it.
    3. His confidence was in the flesh and fleshly methods—Such is really UNBELIEF
    4. How unkind, unbrotherly, ignoble to barter with spiritual values when a brother needs food!
    5. Why any need to purchase it?
    6. Should spiritual privilege be purchased with money? Or even **soup**?
    7. Compare Acts 8 where Simon sought to purchase the gift of the Spirit with money—and Peter’s curse upon him.
    8. Such efforts are revolting to both natural affections and to spiritual uprightness.
    9. Even if trying to bypass the unwarranted claims of Isaac & Esau should we compromise in order to do right? Buy off persecution with pottage?
    10. We must overcome evil with good—righteousness!
    11. Jacob became Esau’s tempter!
    12. Was the birthright really more secure as the result of his behavior?
    13. He ruined his relationship with Esau, lost the opportunity for spiritual influence, and brought bad blood upon these families for generations to come!
- III. THE ERROR OF PROFANITY (Heb. 12:16)—Esau  
Ishmael was excluded for his fleshly birth; Esau for his fleshly disposition.
  - A. Profane Profession (v. 27)
    - Life of sport
    - Undisciplined
    - Privileged character
    - Of what real value to the family?
  - B. Temporal Perspective (v. 32)—So what value is the Messianic seed?
    - His rejection here was mainly of the spiritual heritage—not mainly the physical
  - C. Sensual Gratification (30, 34)

1. Greedy (30)
2. Gross (34)—so casual about it!

#### CONCLUSION

Don't make these three errors—but especially the one of Esau: **Sacrificing the permanent on the altar of the immediate.**

Don't ask, "What is in it for me?"

Rather ask, "What is God's will; what pleases Him?"

I must have that girl/guy

I must satisfy my lust.

I must have my pleasure.