



Series: Genesis

Passage: Genesis 27:34-28:9

Title: The Danger of Vain Religion

Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 1/22/2023

Discussion Starter – What do you see as the danger of “Vain Religion”? How would you describe the opposite of “Vain Religion”? What does that look like in today’s world?

Read Genesis 27:34-38

- Why do you think Esau wept so bitterly? What does his weeping reveal about his character and his motive of what he desired to receive from the blessing of God and his father Isaac?
- Why didn’t Esau seem to take any personal responsibility for his situation? What does Esau represent in this story and why did God not want him to have the blessing?
- What did Esau want from God? How did Esau’s understanding of the blessing differ from God’s?
- How would you answer the question “What do you really want from God”? What are some of the reasons mentioned in this sermon for why we should desire to seek God?
- Read (Hebrews 12:16-17). How does this describe the “Esau syndrome”? What are some of the things that might tempt you to succumb to the Esau syndrome?
- What can we learn about Godly repentance and how it differs from Esau’s reaction?
- Read Jeremiah 17:10, Psalm 34:18 and Psalm 51:15-17. As God looks into our heart, what acceptable attitude does He desire to see?
- Read John 6:26. What is Jesus teaching us here in this passage?

Read Genesis 27:39-46

- Describe in your own words this secondary blessing and proclamation Isaac declared over Esau.
- How did Esau react after his father Isaac’s declaration? What does it reveal about his character?
- What does the Bible instruct us about revenge? What is the character trait necessary for enacting revenge?
- How did Rebekah react to Esau’s statement? What cost did she pay for this decision?
- Who were the daughter’s of Heth? Why do you think Rebekah was weary of her life because of them? Why do you think she sent Jacob to her brother?

Read Genesis 28:1-9

- Describe what you see happening between Isaac and Jacob in verses 1-4. Why was this significant for both of them?
- Who is Laban? Where is Padan Aram?
- How did Esau respond as he witnessed Jacob leave for Padan Aram? What was his motivation for the response he took?
- What was missing from Esau’s faith after these events, that it is still considered vain? What did God desire to see in and hear from Esau?
- How has this message spoken to you? What does God desire to see and hear in your life?