

Wednesday night, 7/19/06

Genesis: The Battle for Beginnings Week Fifteen

Genesis 25:19-34

I. The Blissful Wedding

- Rebecca's natural pedigree was _____, but her step of faith put her in the family of God.
- Rebecca is a picture of the _____ in relationship with Christ.
- The Gospel must be seen as Christ's _____ to the world.
- Have you said I do?

II. The Barren Womb

- Issac is praying that his bride will bear _____.
- Lord Jesus is interceding that we might be _____ in Him.

2 Peter 1:8

For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 7:4

So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God.

- Fruit is the _____ of a marriage but not the _____.
- When we are married to Christ, the barren womb is a _____.
- Are you agonizing over your _____ barrenness?

III. The Bitter War

- Those who are most fruitful for God are also those who are most aware of the _____ within.
- The _____ is an ever-present _____ to the work of the Spirit.

Gal 5:16-17

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

- Rebekah's two natures were _____, _____, and _____.

IV. The Contenders Exposed

A. Esau

- Esau typifies the things of the _____.
- Esau was more interested in the _____ than the _____.
- Esau was more interested in the _____ than the _____.
- Esau was ultimately mastered by his by _____.

"The things we cultivate are the things that will eventually control us." -John Phillips

- Esau was willing to sacrifice the _____ on the altar of the _____.

Heb 12:16

See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.

- Esau sold eternal glory for earthly _____.
- What is your _____ of meat?

B. Jacob

- Jacob _____ the things of God.
- Jacob was a man of the _____.
- Jacob's passion was to _____.

Malachi 1:1-4

An oracle: The word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi. ² "I have loved you," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" the LORD says. "Yet I have loved Jacob, ³ but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his mountains into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." ⁴ Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called the Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the LORD.

- Jacob was a _____ man.
- Jacob pursued the _____.
- Jacob desired to live in light of _____.
- God's approval of Jacob was not on the basis of what he did but what he _____.

- Are you an Esau or a Jacob?