

Toldot
“Generations”

Torah: **Genesis 25:19-28:9**
Haftarah: **Malachi 1:1-2:7**
Brit Chadasha: **Romans 9:6-16; Hebrews 11:20, 12:14-17**

All verses are from the Tree of Life Bible

TORAH:

Genesis 25:19-34

Esau and Jacob

19 Now these are the genealogies of Isaac, Abraham’s son. Abraham fathered Isaac.

20 Isaac was 40 years old when he took for himself Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife.

21 Isaac prayed to *Adonai* on behalf of his wife because she was barren. *Adonai* answered his plea and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

22 But the children struggled with one another inside her, and she said, “If it’s like this, why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of *Adonai*.

23 *Adonai* said to her: “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from your body will be separated. One people will be stronger than the other people, but the older will serve the younger.”

24 When her time came to give birth, indeed there were twins in her womb.

25 Now the first came out reddish, all of him was like a fur coat, and they named him Esau.

26 Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding onto Esau’s heel—so he was named Jacob. Isaac was 60 years old when he fathered them.

27 When the boys grew up, Esau became a man knowledgeable in hunting, an outdoorsman, while Jacob was a mild man, remaining in tents.

28 Now Isaac loved Esau because he had a taste for wild game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

29 Now Jacob cooked a stew. When Esau came in from the field, he was exhausted,

30 so Esau said to Jacob, “Please feed me some of this really red stuff, because I’m exhausted”—that is why he is called Edom.

31 So Jacob said, “Sell your birthright to me today.”

32 Esau said, “Look, I’m about to die. Of whatever use is this to me—a birthright?”

33 Jacob said, “Make a pledge to me now.” So he made a pledge to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.

34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

Genesis 26

Confirming the Covenant with Isaac

1 Now there was a famine in the land—aside from the previous famine that happened in Abraham’s days. So Isaac went to King Abimelech of the Philistines, to Gerar.

2 Then *Adonai* appeared to him and said, “Do not go down to Egypt. Dwell in the land about which I tell you.

3 Live as an outsider in this land and I will be with you and bless you—for to you and to your seed I give all these lands—and I will confirm my pledge that I swore to Abraham your father.

4 I will multiply your seed like the stars of the sky and I will give your seed all these lands. And in your seed all the nations of the earth will continually be blessed,

5 because Abraham listened to My voice and kept My charge, My *mitzvot*, My decrees, and My instructions.”

6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar.

7 Now the men of the place asked about his wife. So he said, “She is my sister,” because he was afraid to say, “my wife”—“or else the men of the place would kill me on account of Rebekah, because she’s good looking.”

8 Now after he had been there for a long time, King Abimelech of the Philistines peered down through the window and saw, behold, Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah.

9 So Abimelech called Isaac and said, “So in fact she’s your wife! Now how could you say, ‘She’s my sister’?” Isaac said to him, “Because I said, ‘Or else I might die because of her.’”

10 Then Abimelech said, “What is it that you’ve done to us? One of the people could have easily slept with your wife and you would’ve brought guilt on us.”

11 So Abimelech commanded all the people saying, “Whoever touches this man or his wife will surely die!”

Adonai Blesses Isaac

12 Then Isaac sowed in that land and in that year reaped a hundredfold. *Adonai* blessed him

13 and the man became great and continued to become greater until he became very great.

14 He acquired livestock of sheep and livestock of cattle, and numerous servants. Then the Philistines envied him.

15 All the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of his father Abraham the Philistines stopped up and filled with dirt.

16 So Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go away from us, for you are much more powerful than us.”

17 So Isaac departed from there, camped in the Valley of Gerar and dwelled there.

18 Then Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of his father Abraham—the Philistines had stopped them up after Abraham’s death. He gave them the same names that his father had given them.

19 Then Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found a well of living water there.

20 But the shepherds of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s shepherds saying, “The water is ours!” So he named the well Quarrel, because they quarreled with him.

21 Then he dug another well and they quarreled over it too, so he named it Accusation.

22 Then he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he named it Wide Spaces and said, "Because now *Adonai* has created wide spaces for us and we will be fruitful in the land."

23 He went up from there to Beer-sheba.

24 *Adonai* appeared to him that night and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you, and I will bless you and multiply your seed for the sake of Abraham my servant."

25 So he built an altar there and called on the Name of *Adonai*. He pitched his tent there and Isaac's servants hollowed out a well there.

Covenant of Isaac and Abimelech

26 Now Abimelech went to him from Gerar along with Achuzzat his friend and Phicol the commander of his army.

27 Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, since you hate me and sent me away from you?"

28 They said, "We've clearly seen that *Adonai* has been with you. So we said, 'Let there now be an agreement between us—between us and you—and let us make a covenant with you:

29 that you will do us no harm, just as we haven't touched you and just as we did nothing to you but good, and sent you away in *shalom*. You are now blessed by *Adonai*."

30 Then he made a feast for them and they ate and drank.

31 Then they got up early in the morning and made a pledge, each to his brother. Then Isaac sent them away and they departed from him in *shalom*.

32 Now it happened that on that day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well that they dug, and said to him, "We've found water."

33 So he called it Pledge. That is why the city's name is Beer-sheba to this day.

34 When Esau was 40 years old, he took as wife Judith the daughter of Be-eri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.

35 But they caused a bitterness of spirit for Isaac and Rebekah.

Genesis 27

Jacob Tricks Isaac

1 Now it was when Isaac grew old and his eyes were too dim to see, that he called Esau his elder son, and said to him, “My son.” “Here I am,” he said to him.

2 “Look, I’m old,” he said. “I don’t know the day of my death.

3 So now, please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt me some game.

4 Then prepare me a delicious meal that I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, so that my soul may bless you before I die.”

5 Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac was speaking to Esau his son. So while Esau went to the field to hunt game to bring in,

6 Rebekah said to Jacob her son, “Look, I heard your father speaking to your brother Esau saying,

7 ‘Bring me some game and prepare me a delicious meal that I may eat and bless you in *Adonai’s* presence before my death.’

8 So now, my son, listen to my voice, to what I am commanding you.

9 Go now to the flock and bring me two good young goats from there, so that I may prepare them as a delicious meal for your father—that he’ll love.

10 Then you’ll bring it to your father to eat, so that he may bless you before his death.”

11 But Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, “Look, my brother Esau is a hairy man, but I’m a smooth man.

12 Perhaps my father will touch me, and he’ll take me for a mocker, and I’ll bring upon myself a curse and not a blessing.”

13 Then his mother said to him, “Let your curse fall on me, my son. Just listen to me, and go, get them for me.”

14 So he went and got them, and brought them to his mother, and his mother prepared a delicious meal that his father would love.

15 Rebekah also took her elder son Esau’s favorite clothes that were with her in the house, and she put them on her younger son Jacob,

16 along with the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the hairless part of his neck.

17 She put the delicious meal and the bread that she had prepared in the hand of Jacob her son.

18 Then he came to his father and said, “My father.” And he said, “I’m here. Who are you, my son?”

19 Then Jacob said to his father, “I’m your firstborn, Esau. I’ve done just what you said to me. Sit up, please, and eat some of my wild game so that your soul may bless me.”

20 Then Isaac said to his son, “How in the world were you able to find it so quickly, my son?” He said, “Because *Adonai* your God made it happen for me.”

21 Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come closer so I can feel you my son— whether or not you really are my son Esau.”

22 So Jacob came closer to his father Isaac, and he felt him. Then he said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice but the hands are Esau’s hands.”

23 He did not recognize him because his hands were like the hairy hands of his brother Esau. So he blessed him.

24 But he said, “Are you really my son Esau?” So he said, “I am.”

25 Then he said, “Bring it to me and I’ll eat some of my son’s wild game, so that my soul may bless you.” So he brought it to him and he ate, and he brought him wine and he drank.

26 Then his father Isaac said to him, “Please come closer and kiss me my son.”

27 So he came closer and kissed him. When he smelled the smell of his clothes, he blessed him and said, “Behold, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that *Adonai* has blessed.

28 May God give you— from the dew of the sky and from the fatness of the land— an abundance of grain and new wine.

29 May peoples serve you and may nations bow down to you. Be master over your brothers. May your mother’s sons bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and may those who bless you be blessed.”

30 No sooner had Isaac finished blessing Jacob and Jacob had just gone out from his father Isaac’s presence, than Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 Then he also prepared a delicious meal and brought it to his father, and he said to his father, “Let my father get up and eat of his son’s wild game that your soul may bless me.”

32 His father Isaac said, “Who are you?” And he said, “I am your son, your first-born, Esau.”

33 Then Isaac trembled with intense trembling and said, “Who was it then that hunted wild game and brought it to me? I ate it all just before you came and I blessed him—and yes, he will be blessed.”

34 When Esau heard his father’s words, he shouted with an intensely bitter groan. Then he said to his father, “Bless me, me too, my father!”

35 Then he said, “Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing.”

36 He said, “Is this why he was named Jacob—since he’s tricked me twice already? My birthright he’s taken. Look! Now he’s taken my blessing!” Then he said, “Haven’t you saved a blessing for me?”

37 Isaac answered and said to Esau, “Behold, I’ve made him master over you, and all your brothers I’ve given to him as servants. I’ve provided him with grain and new wine. What then can I do for you, my son?”

38 Esau said to his father, “Do you just have one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!” And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

39 Then Isaac his father said to him, “Behold, away from the land’s fatness shall your dwelling be, away from the dew of the sky above.

40 By your sword shall you live, and your brother shall you serve. But when you tear yourself loose, you will tear his yoke off your neck.”

41 So Esau bore a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said in his heart, “Let the time for mourning my father draw near, so that I can kill my brother Jacob!”

42 Now to Rebekah was reported the words of Esau her elder son. So she sent and called for Jacob her younger son, and said to him, “Look, your brother Esau is consoling himself about you with the thought of killing you.

43 So now my son, listen to my voice. Get up—flee to Laban my brother in Haran!

44 Then stay with him a few days, until your brother’s rage subsides,

45 until your brother’s rage turns away from you and he forgets what you’ve done to him. Then I’ll send for you and get you back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?”

46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I'm disgusted with my life because of the daughters of Heth. If Jacob takes a wife from the daughters of Heth like these women, from the daughters of the land what is life to me?"

Genesis 28:1-9

Jacob Sent to Laban

1 So Isaac called for Jacob, blessed him, commanded him and said to him, "Don't take a wife from the daughters of Canaan.

2 Get up, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel, your mother's father, and take for yourself a wife from there, from the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother.

3 Now may *El Shaddai* bless you, and make you fruitful and multiply you so that you will become an assembly of peoples.

4 And may he give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your seed with you that you may take possession of the land of your sojourn, which God gave to Abraham."

5 Then Isaac sent Jacob away and he went toward Paddan-aram, to Laban the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.

6 Now Esau saw that Isaac blessed Jacob when he sent him to Paddan-aram to take for himself a wife from there, when he blessed him and commanded him saying, "Don't take a wife from the daughters of Canaan."

7 Jacob listened to his father Isaac and to his mother and went toward Paddan-aram.

8 Then Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan were contemptible in his father Isaac's eyes.

9 So Esau went to Ishmael and took Mahalath, the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, Nebaioth's sister for his wife, besides his other wives.

HAFTARAH

Malachi 1:1-14

Jacob Loved Adonai

1 An oracle: The word of *Adonai* to Israel by Malachi.

2 “I loved you,” says *Adonai*. But you say: “How have you loved us?” “Was Esau not Jacob’s brother?” —it is the declaration of *Adonai*— “Yet I loved Jacob and Esau I hated. I made his hills a wasteland and gave his inheritance to jackals of the wilderness.”

4 For Edom may say, “We have been beaten down, but we will return and rebuild the ruins.” Thus *Adonai-Tzva’ot* says: “They may rebuild but I will tear down. They will be called a wicked territory, the people *Adonai* denounced forever.

5 So you will see, and you will say: ‘May *Adonai* be magnified beyond the border of Israel!’”

Despicable Sacrifices

6 “A son honors his father, and a servant his master. So if I am Father, where is My honor? If I am Master, where is My reverence?” —says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*— “you, *kohanim* who despise My Name!” But you say, “How did we despise Your Name?”

7 “By offering defiled bread on My altar.” But you say, “How did we defile You?” When you say, “The table of *Adonai* is despicable.”

8 “When you bring a blind one as sacrifice, is it not wrong? Or when you bring a lame or sick one, is it not wrong? Offer them now to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Or will he acknowledge you favorably?” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.

9 “So now, implore God’s favor! Then, will He be gracious to us? Since this has come from your hands, will He accept any of it from you?” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.

10 “If just one of you would shut the doors, and not light My altar uselessly! I have no delight in you,” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*. “Nor will I accept any offering from your hand.

11 “For from sunrise to its setting My Name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to My Name with a pure grain offering, for My Name will be great among the nations,” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.

12 But you are profaning it when you say, “The table of *Adonai* is defiled, and as for its fruit, its food—despicable!”

13 You also say, “It’s so tedious!” “And you sniff at it,” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*. “So you bring plunder, the lame and the sick. Then you bring them as the offering. Should I accept this from your hand?” says *Adonai*.

14 “Moreover, cursed is a deceiver who has in his flock a male, but makes a vow and sacrifices something blemished to my Lord. For I am a great King,” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*, “and My Name shall be revered among the nations.”

Malachi 2:1-7

Warning to the Kohanim and Levites

1 “So now, *kohanim*, this commandment is for you.

2 If you will not listen, and if you will not take to heart to give glory to My Name” —says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*— “then I will send the curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, indeed I have cursed them, because you did not take it to heart.

3 Behold, I am rebuking the seed on account of you, and will spread dung on your faces —the dung of your festivals— and take you away together with it.

4 Then you will know that I have sent this command to you, to be My covenant with Levi,” says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.

5 “My covenant was with him for life and *shalom*, and I gave them to him for reverence. So he revered Me, and he was awestruck by My Name.

6 Instruction of truth was in his mouth. Injustice was not found on his lips.

In *shalom* and uprightness he walked with Me, and he turned many from iniquity.

7 For a *kohen’s* lips should guard knowledge, and instruction must be sought from his mouth. For he is a messenger of *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.

BRIT CHADASHA

Romans 9:6-16

6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all those who are descended from Israel are Israel,

7 nor are they all children because they are Abraham's seed; rather, "Your seed shall be called through Isaac."

8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God; rather, the children of the promise are counted as seed.

9 For the word of promise is this: "At this time I will come, and Sarah shall have a son."

10 And not only this, but also Rebecca having twins, from one act with our father Isaac.

11 Yet before the sons were even born and had not done anything good or bad—so that God's purpose and choice might stand not because of works but because of Him who calls—

12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger."

13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be!

15 For to Moses He says, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

16 So then it does not depend on the one who wills or the one who strives, but on God who shows mercy.

Hebrews 11:20

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even concerning things to come.

Hebrews 12:14-17

14 Pursue *shalom* with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God; and see to it that no bitter root springs up and causes trouble, and by it many be defiled.

16 Also see to it that there is no immoral or godless person—like Esau, who sold his birthright for one meal.

17 For you know that later, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected. He found no chance for repentance, though he begged for it with tears.