

3a Actually all 4 members of this family were wrong:
① Isaac was willing to give Esau the birthright for a "mess of venison" - after the deception Isaac shook violently - he knew God had over-ruled his sensual choice

② Rebeccah perpetrated this deception on Isaac - & was this real love for Jacob her son? She was more interested in his physical accomplishment than in his spiritual condition - she had no respect for Isaac & no trust in God's timing

③ Jacob had lived in this family long enough to know that no one member of the family trusted another so he prepared a camouflage to deceive Isaac "Perhaps I shall be as a deceiver to my father" - how we like to camouflage what we really are so people won't think badly of us. Jacob really was a deceiver - being a clever one didn't make him less of a liar

④ Esau, as we have seen, had no use for God or His Plan. His loud wails were not cries of repentance but cries of frustrated selfishness - he found no way to change his father's mind. Isaac's statement is prophetic describing the "profane"

i.e. The freedom to live unblessed and untamed. God would have accomplished Jacob's Blessing & Esau's rejection in a much better way - probably out the family splitting up & the hatred. But that happens when we do God's work in the flesh: the end justifies the means

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The first key to ~~his~~ God's victory in Jacob's life is that

- ① He was left alone with God
- ② He had to be brought to end of himself
- ③ ~~and~~ and his own resources
- ③ Come to realize his utter weakness
- ④ He started clinging to the Lord

Now Jacob did not stop being Jacob - but as Israel we see less & less of Jacob ~~there~~ The 'adamic' sin nature is always with us - but after God has 'touched it' & we see ourselves having been crucified with Christ (Rom. 6)

Becoming convinced that there is no good thing in me → my sin nature Jacob (Rom 7) Then we can recognize that the "law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin & death" (Rom. 8:2)

Jacob recognized that he had wrestled with God → "face to face & yet was preserved"

God meets man as **MAN** - the man who is God → Jesus

"Our fellowship is with the Father & with His Son Jesus Christ" (I Jo. 1:3)

1. Bethel - House of God - Presence of God
2. Mahanaim - Host of God - Power & Protection of God
3. Peniel - face of God - Favors & Fellowship of God
highest spiritual privilege

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① the first part of the Victory is the

② the second part of the Victory is the

③ the third part of the Victory is the

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