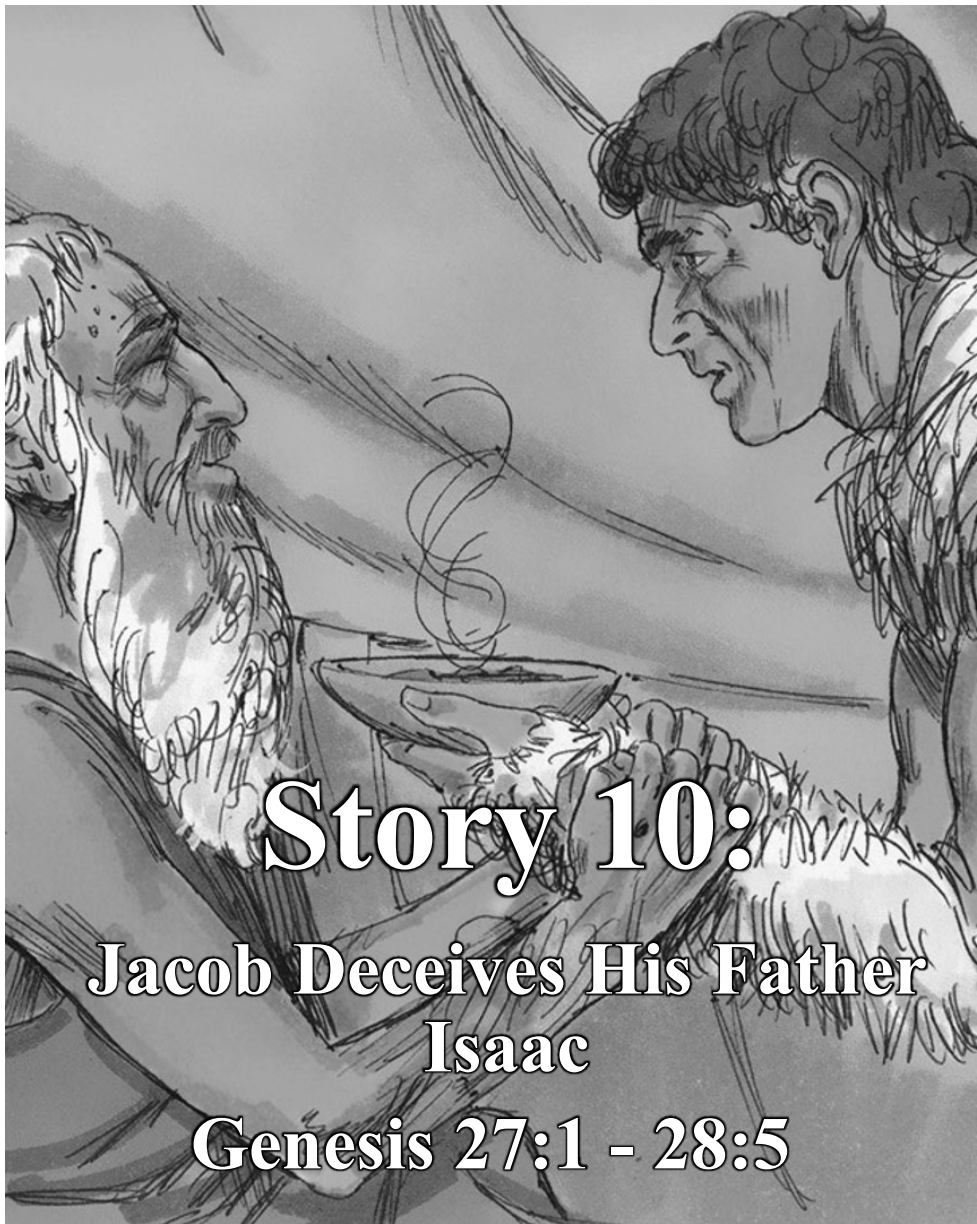




Story 10:

Jacob Deceives His Father
Isaac

Genesis 27:1 - 28:5



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Jacob Deceives His Father
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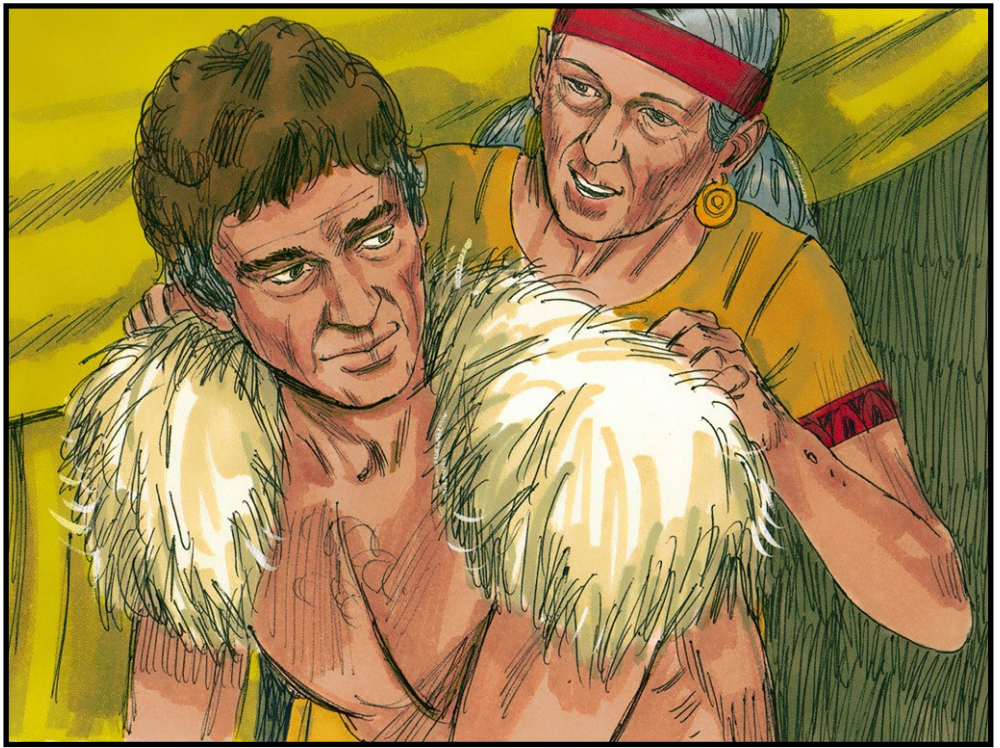
As Isaac became an old man, his son Esau married Hittite women that made life bitter for both Rebekah and Isaac. Also, because of his age, Isaac's eyesight became very weak and he could no longer see well.



Isaac requested to see Esau who was his oldest son. He said to him, “I am now an old man and close to death. Get your bow and arrow and hunt a wild animal for me. Prepare a meal from the meat of the animal just the way I like it. After I eat I will give you my blessing since my life is growing short and I don’t know when I will die.”

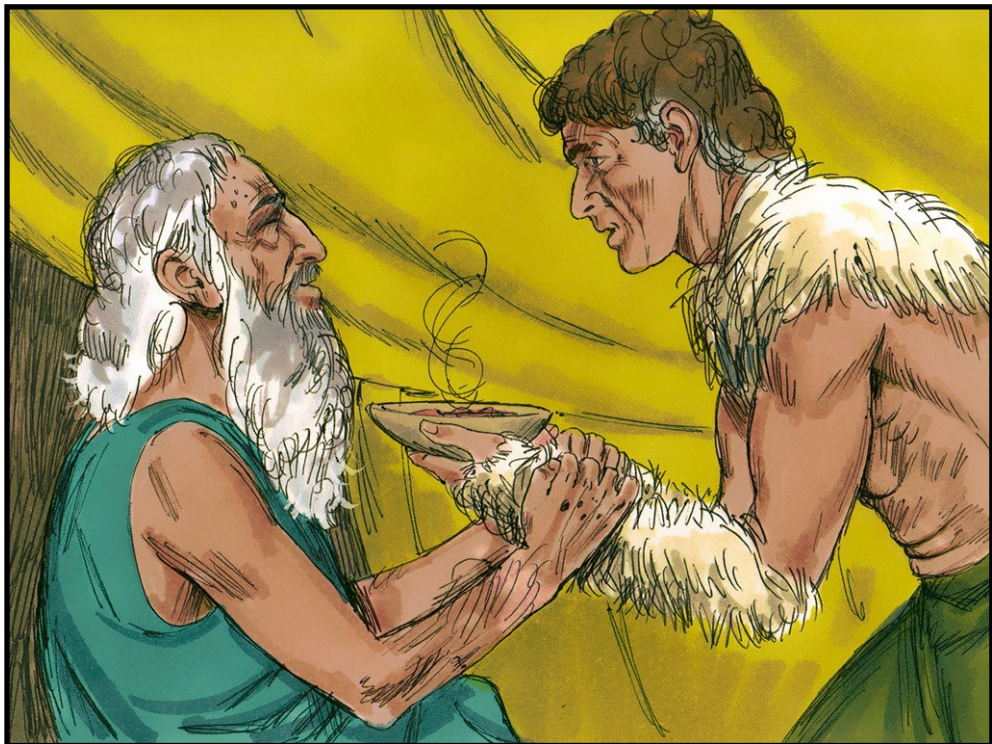


Now Rebekah was listening to the conversation between Isaac and Esau. When Esau had gone, she told *Jacob* to get two young goats. She wanted to prepare some tasty food for Isaac so that Jacob could take it to his father. Then, *he* would get his father's blessing instead of his brother Esau.



“But my brother Esau is a hairy man and I have smooth skin,” Jacob said. “What if my father touches me and finds out that I am trying to trick him? He would curse me instead of blessing me.”

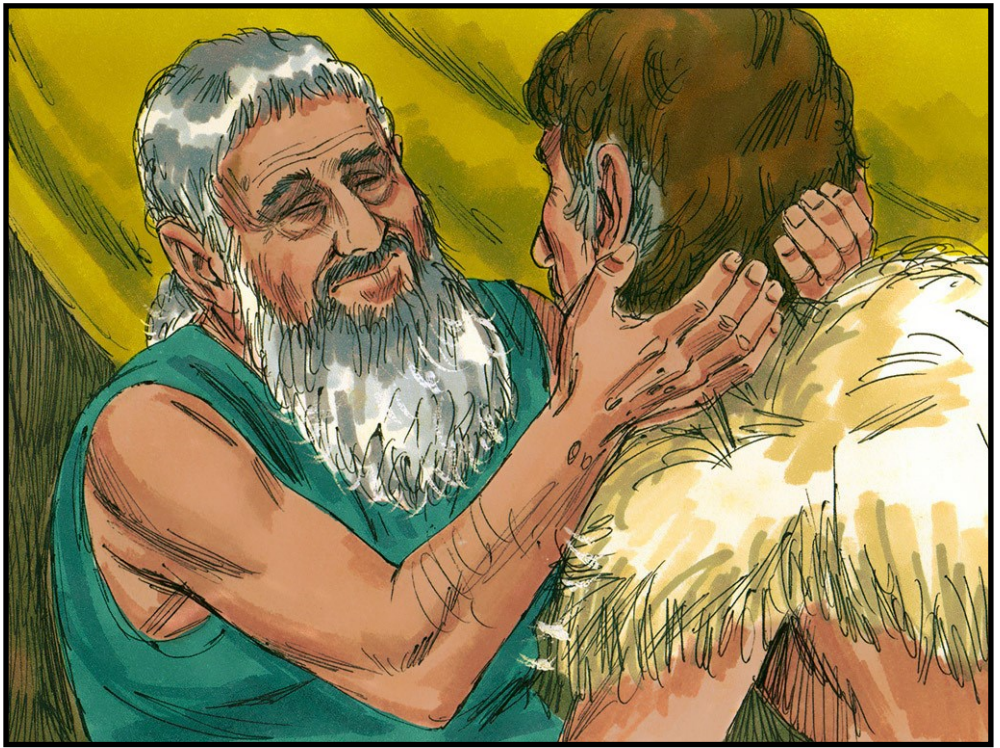
“Just do as I say,” Rebekah said. Then, she covered him with goatskins and gave him some of Esau’s clothes to wear.



Jacob took his father the food that Rebekah had prepared. Pretending to be his brother Esau, he said, “My father.”

Isaac replied, “Who are you?”

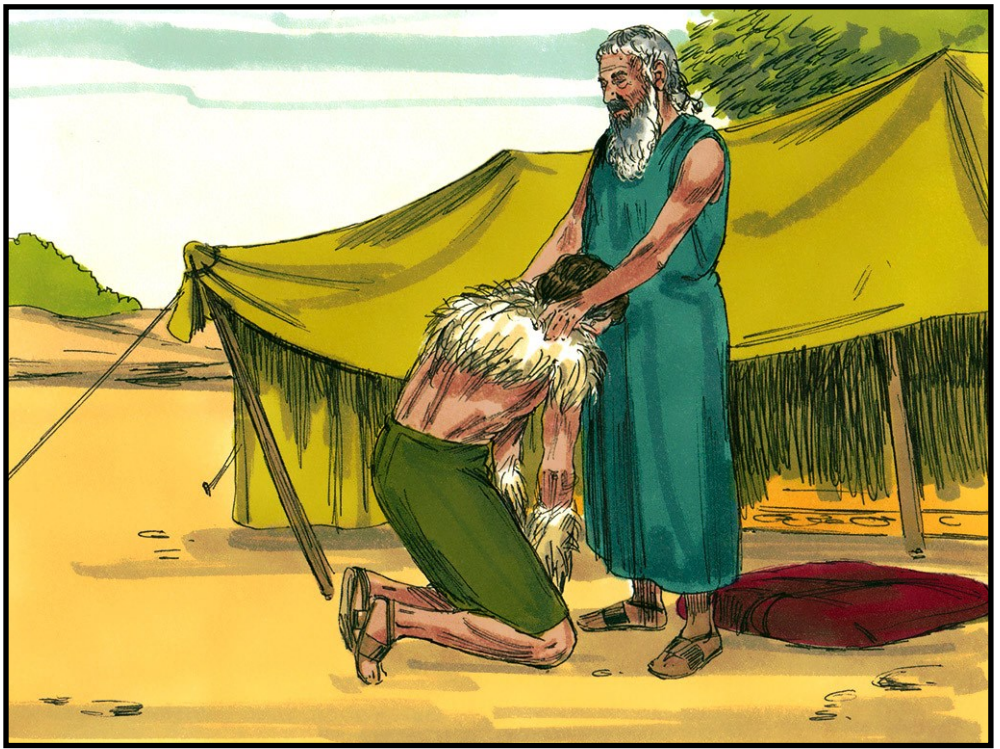
Jacob lied and said, “I am Esau your firstborn son. I hunted the food just like you asked. Please sit up and eat so that you may give me your blessing.”



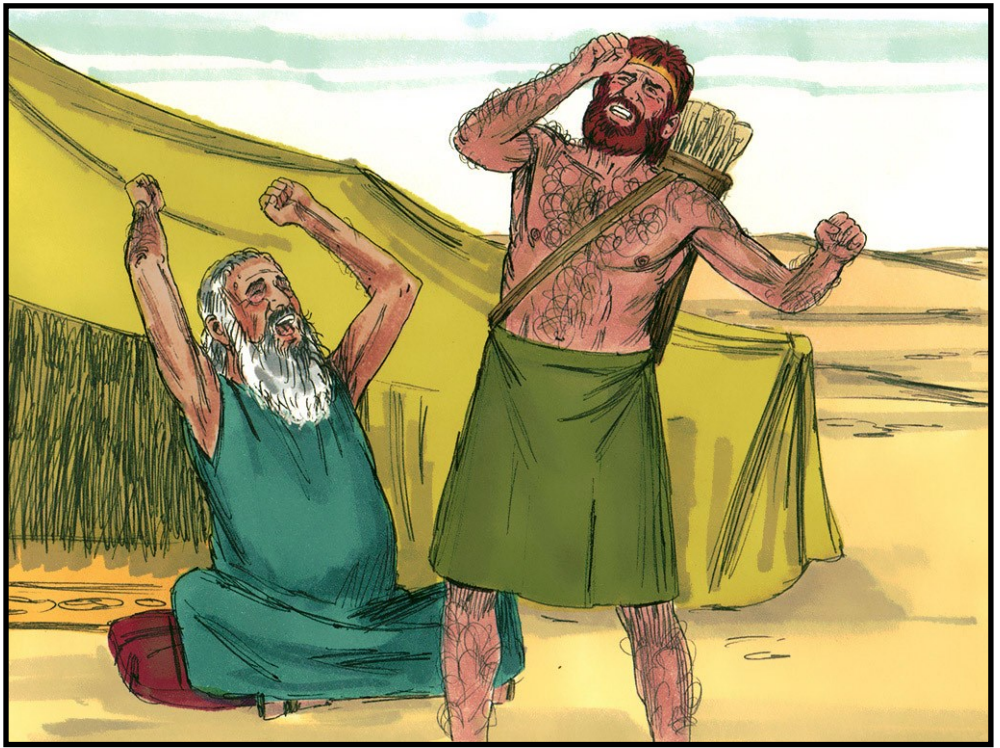
Isaac asked, “How did you hunt so quickly?”

“The LORD helped me,” Jacob lied.

“Come near to me so that I may touch you and know for sure that you are my son Esau.” So Jacob came close. Isaac said, “Your voice sounds like the voice of Jacob, but your hands feel like the hands of Esau.”



Jacob kissed his father, and when Isaac caught the smell of Esau's clothes that Jacob was wearing, he blessed him. He made him master over his brother and all his relatives. "May nations bow down in reverence to you," Isaac said. "May those who curse you be cursed, and those you bless you be blessed."



As soon as Jacob left his father, Esau returned from his hunting trip. He had also made some delicious food. “Father, please sit up and eat so that you may give me your blessing.”

But Isaac said to him, “Who are you?”

Esau replied, “I am your firstborn son, Esau.” Isaac became to shake.

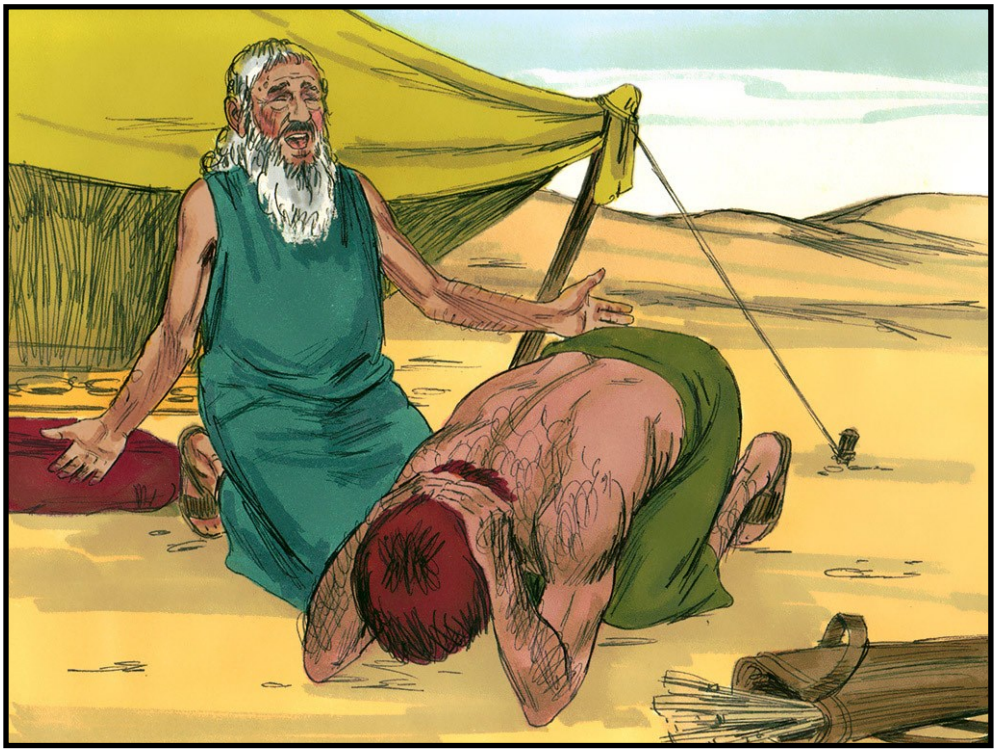
“Who was it that just came to me with food? I gave my blessing to him! Indeed, *he* will be blessed.”



When Esau heard his father's words, he cried out with a loud and bitter cry, "Bless me too, my father!"

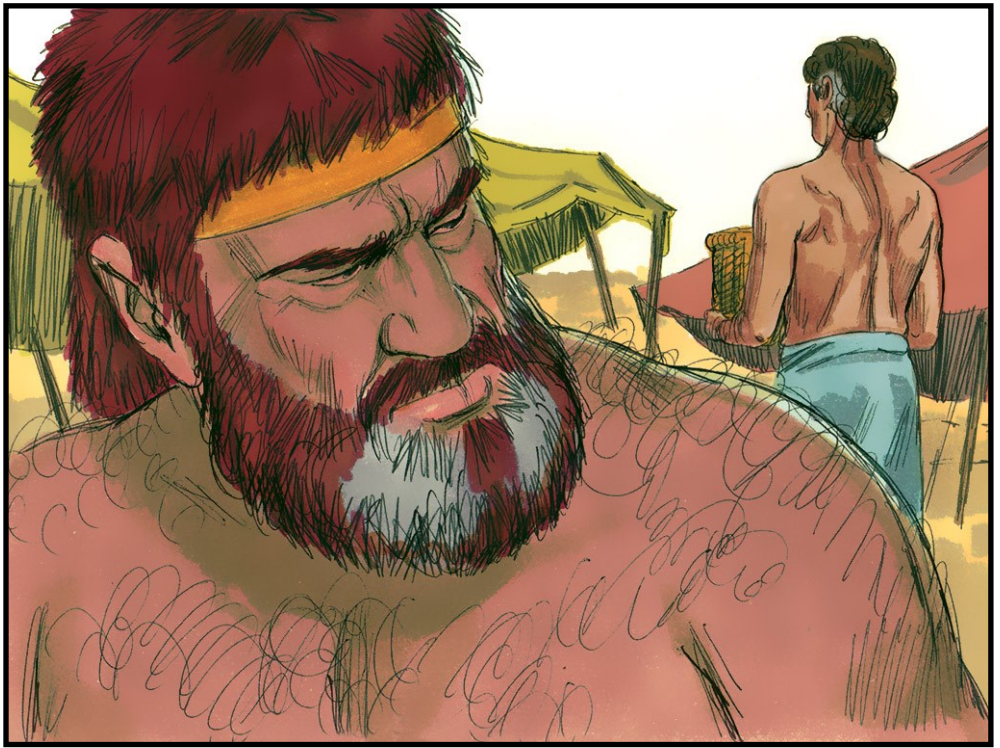
But Isaac replied, "Your brother lied to me and took your blessing!"

Esau complained, "He has now cheated me two different times. First, he took my birthright, and now he has taken away my blessing!"



“Father, do you only have one blessing?”
Esau wept. “Please bless me too.”

But Isaac replied, “I have made Jacob master over you and the rest of our relatives. I have supported him with grain and new wine. What then can I do for you my son? You will dwell away from the richness of the land. You will live by the sword and serve your brother. But, one day you will throw off his yoke from your neck.”



Esau held a deep grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of my father’s life are growing shorter and shorter. When he dies, I will kill my brother Jacob.”



Rebekah called to Jacob and warned him saying, “Your brother is making himself feel better at the thought of killing you. Flee at once to my brother Laban who lives in Haran. When Esau’s anger subsides, I will send for you to come back. As for your brother, I am sick of my life because of his Hittite wives.” Then, Isaac called for Jacob. He blessed him and commanded him to travel to Haran and marry one of Laban’s daughters.

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