

This week's Audio, Video, and Teaching Notes are posted here.

The Voice of Jacob & The Hands of Esau (These are the Generations; Following the Plan of God; Toledot – The Generations of Isaac; The Bringsings Forth; Life Happens to Isaac; The Birth of the Boys – An Eternal Struggle; Jacob and Esau – Two Very Different People; Jacob is Complete; Esau Despises His Birthright; Jacob Tricks Esau for His Blessing; Esau Wants to Kill His Brother; Two Pictures of Esau; Esau's Grandson Amalek Attacks Israel; Remember What Amalek Did – Blot Out His Name – Don't Forget; Saul's Compassion Costs Him the Throne; Mordechai's Positive Outcome; Recognizing Amalek and the Eternal War Against Jacob)

November 30, 2019 – Ross Nichols
The Voice of Jacob & The Hands of Esau

Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:

<https://unitedisrael.org/the-voice-of-jacob-the-hands-of-esau/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ikpQOtBZ1s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCydkemLqU0>

TEACHING NOTES

-Welcome to United Israel World Union, this is our Sabbath morning scripture study coming to you live from the historic Temple Sinai Synagogue in Saint Francisville, Louisiana thanks to an arrangement with the Julius Freyhan Foundation and the West Feliciana Historical Society. Thank you for joining us this morning.

-Deu 6: 4 "Hear, O Israel: YHVE our God, YHVH is one. 5 You shall love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

-Deu 11: 13 "And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love YHVH your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil. 15 And he will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you shall eat and be full. 16 Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them; 17 then the anger of YHVH will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will yield no fruit, and you will perish quickly off the good land that YHVH is giving you. 18 "You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 20 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the

land that YHVH swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

-Num 15: 37 YHVH said to Moses, 38 "Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner. 39 And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of YHVH, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after. 40 So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God. 41 I am YHVH your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am YHVH your God."

-Exo 19: 16 On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. 17 Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because YHVH had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. 19 And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder.

-Exo 20: 1 And God spoke all these words, saying, 2 "I am YHVH your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 3 "You shall have no other gods before me. 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I YHVH your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. 7 "You shall not take the name of YHVH your God in vain, for YHVH will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. 8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to YHVH your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. 11 For in six days YHVH made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore YHVH blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. 12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that YHVH your God is giving you. 13 "You shall not murder. 14 "You shall not commit adultery. 15 "You shall not steal. 16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

-Read today's Torah Reading Toldot: "Generations" from Genesis 25:19 – Genesis 28: 9.

-In Nehemiah 8 we have the only account of a Torah service in the Tanakh. In that passage, Ezra stands up on a wooden platform and he reads from the Torah and afterwards he gives some explanation. This is the model we set up years ago. I was gone for three weeks and had wonderful people filling in for me. Thank you very much to Sherry, Jodell, and Ronnie, and I got some great feedback on everyone's class. My appreciation also goes to everyone here at the local group for holding everything together while I was away. We have been allowed to come back into Temple Sinai Synagogue thanks to the Julius Freyhan Foundation and the West Feliciana Historical Society and we

are pleased to be here because we are bringing back into this place what this building was actually intended to be for.

-We were first allowed in this building in December of 2005 and thought that this house ought to be a house of worship and study of the Torah. From this place I'm feeling inspired to follow the Torah cycle because its foundational. You can't go wrong if you base your faith, your practice, and your beliefs on the wonderful text that we have been given, Genesis through Deuteronomy.

-There is no better way to do this than to follow in step with the Jewish people according to the annual cycle of Torah readings. According to the annual cycle of Torah readings we are in the Book of Genesis, the Book of Beginnings. We are in a cycle of readings that concern us with the patriarchal plan with the patriarchs. Over the next several weeks I plan to present the material as the Torah lays it out and you will begin to see connections between the Torah cycle readings and the previous study that I started on the Tribes. These foundational stories come together to paint a picture that we have to get straight in our minds in order to follow this particular plan.

-Thirteen times in the book of Genesis we encounter a word in Hebrew, Toledot which is typically translated as Generations. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth, Genesis 2:4 ... Each time we encounter this word we are following the plan of God. Toledot introduces us to the generations of Isaac. Literally this term means the bringings forth. This week we are focusing on Isaac and will be talking about something that is very significant related to Isaac. Today we will not just be talking about the birth of Jacob but the birth of an eternal struggle between good and bad. A struggle that is meant to bring forth the goal and meaning of history. That is the Kingdom of God manifested on earth.

-As in any birthing, there is joy and there is pain and sorrow. In one birth, two children were brought forth. At the birthing we have a picture if you will of the bringings forth of the Kingdom of God as well as the enemy there of. Earlier in the text, Isaac is described as the child of promise, the heir of Abraham and Sarah, the beloved son. He is even called, your only son. Isaac is the recipient of the blessing, the one through whom the patriarchal plan will pass, as well as the continuity of the plan. Isaac is the second of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and stands out as different than his father and his son. He lives longer than both his father and his son. He lives to 180 years old and is the husband of one woman. In the story multiple wives are associated with both Abraham and with Jacob and these become a source of trouble and contention.

-Isaac only has one woman. To Isaac, life seems to happen to him and is sort of presented as a passive character. Not necessarily engaged but things happen too him. Think about the story of the binding of Isaac which is such a pivotal point in the story of the plan but also in the life of Isaac. Like his father before him, this plays as a consistent theme. Isaac's beloved wife Rebekah is barren, just like Sarah. What this means is that redemption according to the plan laid forth by the creator of heaven and earth, a miracle must take place for the plan to continue. Some religions only have a single miraculous birth. Judaism, in the story of the Hebraic plan, is initiated not because of one miraculous birth but because of at least three. The narrative relates the birth that I will be talking about today in the following way.

-Gen 25: 19 These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac, 20 and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the

Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. 21 And Isaac prayed to YHVH for his wife, because she was barren. And YHVH granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

-We live in a time when we expect things to be in an instant. We want things immediately, when we want them, we want them now. We expect God to move on our behalf instantly. God's plan doesn't work at our beckoning. Isaac had a problem; he knew that the seed had to pass through him but his wife couldn't conceive. Isaac entreated YHVH on behalf of his woman. Isaac took to Rebekah when he was forty years old and the birth of the boys took place when he is sixty years old. For twenty long years, Isaac is waiting for the fulfillment of the promise. These sort of points should make us think.

-Perhaps you have been praying for things for a long time. You might even believe that God's not answering your prayers. I would offer this perhaps as encouragement that in it's time God will hasten it. Isaac is sixty years old when the prayer is finally answered. I am focusing on the birth of the boys because I believe that this single event sets the stage for everything that follows, an eternal struggle, a struggle that we too should be engaged in.

-Gen 25: 22 The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of YHVH. 23 And YHVH said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger." 24 When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

-Before the children are born she feels a great struggle within her, literally these babies were fighting in the womb, they struggled within her. There was literally a fight going on inside for Rebekah. At the birth, Isaac take the heel of his brother as if they are fighting to be the first one to exit. This struggle from conception is a fight, not only for survival but for something very essential. These two represent the two sides of the manifestation of God's kingdom. One will be tasked with establishing God's rule and reign on the earth. The other will prove to be an eternal opposer thereof. According to the biblical writers we have two very different people. When God answers Rebekah he says two nations are in your womb and two people are struggling within you.

-Hos 12: 2 YHVH has an indictment against Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways; he will repay him according to his deeds. 3 In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his manhood he strove with God. 4 He strove with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought his favor. He met God at Bethel, and there God spoke with us.

-The life of Jacob described in the Torah narrative points forward to a time and indicates prophetic significance. He met at Bethel and there he spoke with us. These events go beyond sacred history and they give us in these days indications as to what is to come. Within the womb two nations are struggling. There is a fight. Jacob's very name is associated with the word heel. This idea of the heel is played out throughout the biblical text and the brothers are juxtaposed throughout scripture. Today's haftorah reading is from Malachi 1:1 -2:7 and is associated with today's Torah reading Toledot.

-Mal 1: 1 The oracle of the word of YHVH to Israel by Malachi. 2 "I have loved you," says YHVH. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?"

declares YHVH. "Yet I have loved Jacob 3 but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." 4 If Edom says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," YHVH of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called 'the wicked country,' and 'the people with whom YHVH is angry forever.'" 5 Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, "Great is YHVH beyond the border of Israel!"

-Malachi sets the two brothers as opponents. One beloved and one the hated. Jacob has been loved and has a task and Esau is called the border of wickedness and will be destroyed. Esau is described as a cunning hunter, a man of the field. Jacob is described as a quiet man dwelling in tents. Quietness doesn't mean weakness. In the Hebrew Jacob is called whole, complete, perfect, blameless. In this story alone we encounter Jacob as a trickster. God's heroes don't have to be without shortcomings/failures. The fathers of the faith make mistakes, yet God still uses them to bring about his plan and purposes. Noah was also complete/whole in his generation. Abraham is told to walk before YHVH and be complete. Job is considered upright and complete. Being complete doesn't always mean quiet and perfect but it does indicate something that God looks for in those that he chooses to use to bring about his plan and purposes. The boys are driven in a certain direction from birth. The very first words of Jacob concern the things with which he is concerned.

-Gen 25: 31 Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now."

-Remember at the birth he grabbed heel. It's presented in such a way that he is struggling to be the one in whom the plan will pass. His first recorded words are, sell me your birthright, and Esau does. He sells his birthright for a mess of pottage. Esau is concerned with now, what good is a birthright if I die?

-Gen 25: 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

-The love that Isaac had for Esau was because he was a man of the field and he loved to hunt and Isaac loved his cooking. Rebekah loved Jacob. When she heard the message that the younger was the one that would end up with the plan, she's been keeping an eye on this all along. It's inferred by the text that she is willing to do whatever it takes to ensure that the elder serves the younger. Parents try to avoid favoritism, but the bible is very honest with this. Sometimes there are favorites and sometimes it causes us to do things which may not in some sense seem fair. We can read in the text the reality of what favoritism does to the family unit. Rebekah is doing whatever she can to ensure that the word she knows she's received from God will come to pass and Isaac is in love with Esau's food. This sets the stage for what's to happen in chapter 27.

-In chapter 27 Rebekah overhears Isaac telling Esau go hunt me some food and make it like I like it and when you come back, I'll bless you. Rebekah overhears this and knows that a blessing from Isaac is coming forth and she's not willing to allow the blessing to go to Esau because she knows that this blessing should be for Jacob. She comes up with a plan and quickly tells Jacob. Go get two goats, bring them too me and these will be prepared. You will go in and give these to your father and you will be blessed. Jacob is concerned that this plan won't work because he is so different from Esau.

-Even though his father is presented as blind at this point, he knows that his father could find him out and then rather than receive a blessing he could receive a curse. Rebekah to ease his concern said, just do what I tell you and if there's a curse, I'll take it. He knows

that his father might feel his skin because his brother is very hairy, and he is not and so he puts on this disguise so that he might fool his father. The plan works and Jacob receives a blessing that Isaac intended to give for Esau. As Jacob left with the blessing then Esau comes in and he says, here Dad. Isaac begins to tremble and is shaking and says, who are you? He says I'm Esau, your first born and I've made this food that you've asked. Then both of them realize that they've been duped.

-Gen 37: 34 As soon as Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!" 35 But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing." 36 Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"

-Can you imagine the hatred that Esau now has for his brother?

-Gen 37: 41 Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

-He despised the birthright when Jacob took what he desired and what Esau didn't really desire and now he has the blessing as well and Esau wants to kill his brother. Even though Esau desires to kill his brother the years seem to soften it and Esau seemingly forgives Jacob. They then come together to bury their father.

-The bible presents two pictures of Esau, yet many people see only the negative and not the positive. Esau is shown to have feelings, he's been hurt, he's been robbed, and he's been tricked, and the reader even feels a little sorry for Esau. Yet the bible has much more to say about the strained relationship these brothers. Esau's descendants earned the place of Israel's chief enemy throughout the ages and we can't forget the initial story. There is a struggle from the conception of these two which echoes throughout the ages. Genesis 36 focuses on the genealogy of Esau.

-Gen 36: 12 (Timna was a concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son; she bore Amalek to Eliphaz.) These are the sons of Adah, Esau's wife.

-This name is most cursed and represents the enemy of God's plan, his purpose and his people. Esau's grandson Amalek becomes the fulfillment of all that is evil spoken of the brother of Jacob. Amalek takes up the banner in a war that has been waged across the ages. Amalek throughout history has come against God's kingdom, God's plan, his purpose, and his people. In Exodus 17 the Children of Israel are in the wilderness and have become more open in their opposition to Moses and have even come to doubt that God is in their midst.

-Exo 17: 7 And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested YHVH by saying, "Is YHVH among us or not?"

-This testing of YHVH brings on the enemy. When we doubt that God is working in our midst to fulfill his plans and purposes I would put forth to you that we open the door to bad things.

-Exo 17: 8 Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. 9 So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." 10 So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11

Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

-After this battle we read of a charge that Moses gave

-Exo 17: 14 Then YHVH said to Moses, "Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." 15 And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, YHVH Is My Banner, 16 saying, "A hand upon the throne of YHVH! YHVH will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

-Amalek is a descendant of Esau and this proclamation is that the name of Amalek should be blotted out from under heaven because Amalek represents the seed of Edom has made war with YHVH's throne which represents the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is suffering at the hands of its arch enemy, Amalek from generation to generation. Here in Exodus 17 YHVH tells Moses to write this in a scroll, but in third person.

-Deu 25: 17 "Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you came out of Egypt, 18 how he attacked you on the way when you were faint and weary, and cut off your tail, those who were lagging behind you, and he did not fear God. 19 Therefore when YHVH your God has given you rest from all your enemies around you, in the land that YHVH your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you shall not forget.

-Many of you have heard that according to some Jewish scholars that there are 613 commandments in the Torah and three of those we just read. Remember what Amalek did to you by the way. You shall blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. Forget not. The idea is that you constantly keep on your mind the evil that Amalek did when they left Egypt. This battle that's been waged against the throne of YHVH by Amalek, the descendant of Esau throughout biblical we encounter over and over again, pictures of Amalek's attacks.

-Num 24: 15 And he took up his discourse and said, "The oracle of Balaam the son of Beor, the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, 16 the oracle of him who hears the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down with his eyes uncovered: 17 I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth. 18 Edom shall be dispossessed; Seir also, his enemies, shall be dispossessed. Israel is doing valiantly. 19 And one from Jacob shall exercise dominion and destroy the survivors of cities!" 20 Then he looked on Amalek and took up his discourse and said, "Amalek was the first among the nations, but its end is utter destruction."

-Balaam looked on the encampment that he was hired to curse. The children of Israel remember he says, how goodly are your tents O Jacob, your dwelling O Israel. When he rises up he sees that at some point a ruler will come forth from Jacob who will destroy Amalek. Amalek is called the first of the nations. These ancient enemies of Jacob, descendants of his own brother Esau, Edom. They dwelled in the land of the Negev. The enemy attacks the children of Israel from the very beginning. Throughout history these Amalekites would make raids. You wouldn't expect to find them in their place, Amalek

is all over. Anyone who reads Joshua, Judges, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel you see that Amalek is an enemy in many places and in many times. Every encounter with Amalek is hostile.

-There is not any account where Amalek is presented as a kind soul whose been wronged. Amalek is hostile to the people, the plan, and purposes of God. Samuel charged Saul to execute the sentence against Amalek that we just read. To blot out the name of Amalek.

-1 Sam 15: 1 And Samuel said to Saul, "YHVH sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of YHVH. 2 Thus says YHVH of hosts, 'I have noted what Amalek did to Israel in opposing them on the way when they came up out of Egypt. 3 Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'"

-People look at text like this of the extermination of an entire people and they get uneasy. I want you to understand that this text the YHVH is speaking first person and he says, I remember what Amalek did. We are told to remember what Amalek did and to blot the name out and don't forget. Here God say's, I remember what Amalek did. Blot them out and don't fail to do it.

-1 Sam 15: 9 But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fattened calves and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them. All that was despised and worthless they devoted to destruction.

-We might have done the same. Whether or not the biblical narrative agrees with our understanding of western culture and our attempts to give the benefit. Surely all this people isn't bad. The text clearly depicts this group as the enemy of the throne. This leads to Saul's loss of the throne. This leads to Saul's rejection as king. David too fought the Amalekites. Even during the reign of Hezekiah there is a remnant of the Amalek that is still around.

-The infamous Haman in the Book of Ester is called the enemy of all the Jews. The bad guy of Purim. Haman is a descendant of Amalek. If you follow this through, descendant of Amalek, Haman, who wants to destroy the Jews, his plot is foiled by a particular man, a Benjamite the son of Kish, Mordechai by name. Mordechai brings a positive outcome that a previous Benjamite son of Kish failed to do. Mordechai is from the same line that Saul was from. The plans and purposes of God can be delayed by disobedience but ultimately his plans and purposes are brought to pass. Even in our day Amalek is still around.

-Psa 83: 1 A Song. A Psalm of Asaph. O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God! 2 For behold, your enemies make an uproar; those who hate you have raised their heads. 3 They lay crafty plans against your people; they consult together against your treasured ones. 4 They say, "Come, let us wipe them out as a nation; let the name of Israel be remembered no more!" 5 For they conspire with one accord; against you they make a covenant-- 6 the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites, 7 Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; 8 Asshur also has joined them; they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. Selah 9 Do to them as you did to Midian, as to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon,

-The enemy has sought to blot out Israel's name and they will not stop on their own until they have achieved that. Understand that the struggle between the good and the bad, the writers of the scrolls would call it the war of the sons of light verses the sons of darkness. Biblically there is a war that is going on and will continue to be waged until one or the

other blots the name out from under heaven. Israel's task, Jacob's task is to blot out the name of Amalek and the remembrance thereof from under heaven. The enemies sworn goal is to do the same to Israel.

-Rabbi Hertz in his commentary said, Amalek had disappeared from under heaven, but his spirit still walks the earth. In the battle of YHVH against the Amalekites in the realm of the spirit, the only successful weapons are courage, conviction, truth, and righteousness.

-Eze 13: 1 "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness. 2 "And on that day, declares YHVH of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness. 3 And if anyone again prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, 'You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of YHVH.' And his father and mother who bore him shall pierce him through when he prophesies. 4 "On that day every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies. He will not put on a hairy cloak in order to deceive,

-Gen 25: 24 When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

-Isaac though blind remarked on the voice of Jacob and the hands of Esau. Put yourself in that bed with your eyes closed and you say, the voice is Jacobs, but the hands are the hands of Esau. This is what the boys are known for. The voice of Jacob has a great task in this world. The voice of Jacob is to proclaim the kingdom of YHVH. To bring about the manifestation of the kingdom of God on earth. The hands of Esau are against the throne of YHVH. In an eternal struggle that's been waged from the womb to this day. The very last passage of the prophet Obadiah is a vision of the eternal struggle with Edom and Jacob and it ends like this.

-Oba 1: 21 Saviors shall go up to Mount Zion to rule Mount Esau, and the kingdom shall be YHVH's.

-Edom, the enemy of Jacob from the womb, the one whose descendants have waged war against God's people from time and memorial ultimately will be defeated and the name of Amalek will be blotted out. Don't forget what Amalek did. Despite the despises of modern-day Amalek we have to recognize those who would seek to malign and destroy and minimize the impact of Jacob's efforts in the world today. We have blatant enemies who fire projectiles at innocent citizens in Israel seeking destroy and kill. People talk about the thief comes to steal and destroy and people blame it on the devil. It's not a mystical devil, it's a people who are attacking the very plan, and purpose, and people of God. Some manifest it in another way and couch it in social reform and they promote ideas like BDS and set out to destroy Israel in an economic way. Recognize Amalek and the war against Jacob. I pray that we represent the voice of Jacob against any Amalek of our own generation representing the hands of Esau, hands that are against the throne of YHVH and the eternal struggle.

Shabbat Shalom

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

NOVEMBER 30, 2019

This week's Torah Portion Toledot: "Generations" (Genesis 25:19 – 28:9) Rebecca's barrenness and pregnancy; The birth of Jacob and Esau; The personalities emerge; Esau sells his birthright; A famine forces Isaac to Philistia; Isaac in Gerar; The prophetic dispute over the wells; God's promise to Isaac; Abimelech reaffirms the treaty; Esau marries; Isaac's decision to bless Esau; Rebecca's scheme; Jacob comes to Isaac; Isaac blesses Jacob; Esau arrives for his blessings; Esau's hatred of Jacob; Jacob flees to Laban; The admonition against marrying a Canaanite; The Abrahamic Blessing is conveyed to Jacob; Esau marries the daughter of Ishmael.

"This Week in Torah" FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

-Blossoming Rose Israel Tours (2019 – 2020): (Feb-Mar 2020)

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/>

-Tabor & Nichols Israel Tour 2020 – Walking the Ancient Paths: 2/28/2020 – 3/10/2020

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/tabor-nichols-walking-the-ancient-path-tour-2020/>

& <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGyJyOmQCI8>

-77th Annual UIWU Conference: April 24 – 26, 2020 <https://uiwu.unitedisrael.org/>

-UNCC Mt. Zion Archaeological Project, Dig Mt. Zion (2020): June/July 2020

<https://digmountzion.uncc.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/digmountzion/>

-Limited Mobility Israel Tour – 2020: October 19 – 29, 2020

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/limited-mobility-israel-tour-2020/>

-Connect to Israel Tour – 2020: November 1 – 13, 2020

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/connect-to-israel-tour-2020/>

UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION (UIWU) WEBSITES

-UIWU Official Website: <https://unitedisrael.org/>

-UIWU YouTube Website:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg/videos?view_as=public

-UIWU Facebook Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitedisraelworldunion/>

-UIWU Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/unitedisrael/>

-UIWU President, Tabor Blog, Religion Matters from the Bible to the Modern World:

<https://jamestabor.com/>

-UIWU Executive Vice-President, Ralph Buntyn, "Remembering David Horowitz":

<https://unitedisrael.org/category/remembering-david-horowitz/>

FRIENDS OF UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION

-Blossoming Rose, Official Curator of Biblical Tamar Park: <https://blossomingrose.org/>
& https://www.facebook.com/groups/97078180601/?ref=group_browse

-Kol Yehuda, A Voice from Judah, Connecting you to Israel:

<https://www.kolyehuda.com/> & <https://www.facebook.com/groups/470824226357829/>

-Simcha Jacobovici: The Naked Archaeologist:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/57979546982/>