ISAAC: "The Long-looked for son":

- Isaac has been described as the ***mediocre son*** of a great father (Abraham) and the ***mediocre father*** of a great son (Jacob).
  - Meaning of his name: "***laughter"***
  - Parents: Abraham & Sarah

- Gen 21 :5 *And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.*

  - Abraham was 75 years old when promised a son.
  - Abraham was 86 years old when **ISHMAEL** was born.
  - Abraham was 100 years old when **ISAAC** was born (Sarah was 90).

Genesis 18:**12** *Therefore* ***Sarah laughed within herself****, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?*

15 *Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said,* ***Nay; but thou didst laugh.***

Isaac's name in Hebrew means **"laughter**

Gen 21 :6 And Sarah said, ***God hath made me to laugh****, so that all that hear will laugh with me 7 And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born him a son in his old age.*

Isaac: The SUBMISSIVE Son:

-On a Jerusalem mountain – **Mt. Moriah** (22:1-14).
Isaac meekly submits to being used as a burnt -offering.

- Gen 22:9 *And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and* ***bound Isaac his son****, and* ***laid him on the altar upon the wood.***

How old was ISAAC when Abraham almost sacrificed him?

Gen 22: 7 *And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said,* ***Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering***?

Clue #1 : This implies that Isaac is at least old enough to know what the proper sacrificial process is and perceptive enough to ask his father about it.

Gen 21: 34 *And Abraham* ***sojourned*** *in the Philistines' land* ***many days.***

Gen 22:1 *And* ***it came to pass after these things****, that God did tempt Abraham,…*

Clue # 2 :

This suggests that a substantial amount of time elapsed between Isaac's birth and the trip to Moriah.

Gen 23:1 *And Sarah was an* ***hundred and seven and twenty years old****: these were the years of the life of Sarah. 2 And Sarah died ..*

Clue # 3 :

Sarah died sometime after the Moriah incident. She gave birth to Isaac at Age 90. She died at Age 127. Isaac was weaned between Age 2 -5.

Gen 22: 4 *Then on the* ***third day*** *Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.*

Clue # 4 .

Abraham travelled to Moriah, a three-or-four-day journey. The distance to be traveled certainly suggests that Isaac was old enough to care for himself and to help care for his over-100-year-old-father on such a trip.

Gen 22: 12 *And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the* ***lad,*** *neither do thou any thing unto him:T*

Clue # 5:

The term ***boy*** or ***lad*** used to refer to Isaac in v. 12 is translated from a flexible Hebrew term that does not necessarily refer to a young boy.

- Hebrew word also used : for "a baby" (e.g. Ex 2:; 2 Sam 12:16) to **a young man** (e.g., Absalom in 2 Sam 14:21; 18:5).
- It even can refer to **a "steward" or "servant**" (e.g., 2 Sam 16:1) as well as a "junior officer" (1 Ki 20:14, 15, 17, 19).
- In Gen 22:5 the servants that accompanied Abraham and Isaac are called "**young men"** The word translated "young men" is the same word applied to Isaac in verses 5 and 12.

Probably the most useful clue to how old Isaac was is Gen 22:6.

6 *And Abraham took* ***the wood of the burnt offering****, and laid it upon Isaac his son*;

Clue # 6 :

As they climb the mountain, Isaac is the one carrying the large pile of wood.

- Wood enough for a burnt sacrifice would have been fairly heavy.
- This fact tells us Isaac wasn't a small child when he was to be sacrificed; he was at least a healthy teenager.

Taking all the points and Biblical clues , we can safely say that Isaac was a ***young man— or an young adult -***

NOT a young boy—when Abraham attempted to sacrifice him on Mt. Moriah.

- Isaac's age also adds an interesting dimension to the story.
- If he was strong enough to carry the wood up the mountain, then he was probably ***strong enough to resist being sacrificed*** and fend off Abraham if he had wanted to.
- The fact that Isaac allowed himself to be bound and placed on the altar (verse 9) shows that **Isaac continued to trust his father** Abraham.
- His **SUBMISSIVENESS**

FINDING A WIFE for Isaac:
God would instruct his servant **ELIEZER** (Gen 15:2) to find a wife for Isaac.

Gen 24: 3 *And I will make thee swear by the Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell:*

4 ***But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred,*** *and take a wife unto my son Isaac*.

Gen 24:7 *The Lord God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land;* ***he shall send his angel before thee****, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence*.

Gen 24: 10 *And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and* ***went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor***.

Why was Eliezer instructed to go back to Mesopotamia?

Gen 22: 20 *And it came to pass after these things, that* ***it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nahor;***
21 Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram,
22 And Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and ***Bethuel.***
23 And ***Bethuel*** *begat* ***Rebekah****: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother*.

- It was told Abram that his brother Nahor and wife Milcah has borne several sons, and had daughters.

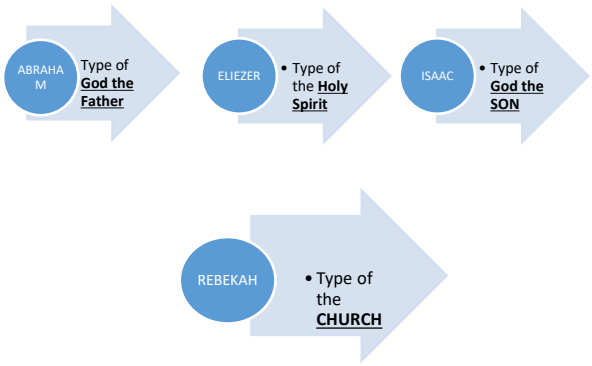
- **Eliezer prayed for God's perfect leading:**

Gen 24: 12 *And he said O Lord God of my master Abraham, I pray thee,* ***send me good speed this day,*** *and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.*

After meeting Rebekah:

Gen24: 26 *And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the Lord.*

27 And he said, ***Blessed be the Lord God*** *of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way,* ***the Lord led me*** *to the house of my master's brethren.*



- Abraham is a type of **GOD the FATHER** seeking out a bride for His Son

- Eliezer is the type of the **HOLY SPIRIT** tasked to find the bride for the Son.
-
- Isaac is the type of **GOD the SON** waiting for His bride

- Rebekah is the type of the **CHURCH.**

Rebekah was asked **: "*Wilt thou go with this man?*** And she said***, I will go.*** (Salvation is a personal matter).

- **WIFE** : Rebekah sister of Laban married Isaac when he was 40y/o, lives in Padanaram
- **SONS** : Esau & Jacob had them when he was 60y/o
- Meekly submitted as an offering in **Mt. Moriah**
- Settled in Gerar but was bothered by Philistines
- Had peace compact with Abimelech
- Wells owned after the death of his Father:
  - Esek- strove
  - Sitnah- strove again
  - Rehoboth- the Lord hath made room for us

ISAAC's GIVES BLESSINGS:

- Isaac, at age 137, felt he was at the point of death. Actually, he would live another 43 years and reach 180 (Gen. 35:28).
- His brother Ishmael had died at 137 (25:17)

ESAU & JACOB - The twin Sons of Isaac and Rebekah:

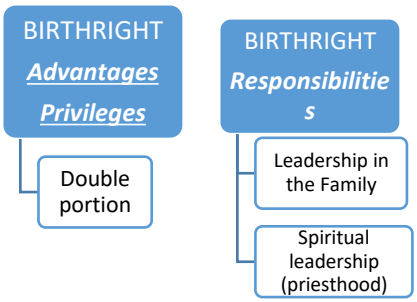
Prophecy on the Future of these Twins:

Gen 25: 22 *And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the Lord.*
23 *And the Lord said unto her,* ***Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.***
24 *And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.*
25 *And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.*
26 *And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob:*

	VOCATION	SPIRITUALITY
ESAU	A cunning hunter, a man of the field; Gen 25: 28 "Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison	Looked down on spiritual things.
JACOB	A plain man, dwelling in tents. Quiet type; Gen 25:28 "Rebekah loved Jacob"	Grew to love God.

ESAU: Despised his birthright
JACOB: Deceived Esau to steal the Birthright

Gen 25: 29 *And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint:*
30 *And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.*
31 *And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.*
32 *And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me?*
33 *And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob.*
34 *Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau* ***despised his birthright.***



Advantages and privileges of the Birthright:
1. that this baby became the object of special affection and
2. would legally receive a double portion of his father's estate.

Responsibilities of the birthright were that the firstborn was expected to assume :
1. Leadership in the Family.
2. Spiritual leadership of the family (priesthood)

The CHARACTER of ESAU:

Heb 12: 14 *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*
15 *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any* ***root of bitterness*** *springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;*

16 *Lest there be any* ***fornicator,*** *or* ***profane person****,* ***as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.***

17 *For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing,* ***he was rejected****: for* ***he found no place of repentance****, though he sought it carefully with tears.*

- The term "***fornicator***" refers to his immorality;
- The word "***profane*** " calls attention to his utter disregard for spiritual things.
- It literally means, "***one outside the temple.".*** **Esau remained an unbeliever.**

Like FATHER (Abraham) ; Like SON (Isaac) Denied REBEKAH as his Wife: Gen 26:

- **At Gerar – land of the Philistines:**

Gen 26: 7 *And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said,* ***She is my sister****: for* ***he feared to say****, She is my wife;* ***lest****, said he,* ***the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah****; because she was fair to look upon.*

- **Was rebuked by Abimelech.**

Gen 26: 10 *And Abimelech said,* ***What is this thou hast done unto us****? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and t****hou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.***

11 And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.

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- In spite of his carnality, **God reaffirms the Abrahamic Covenant to Isaac** and blesses him greatly in material things.

Isaac Settled in Gerar – the Land of the Philistines and Displayed Peaceability (did not quarrel with the Philistines):

Gen 26: 12 *Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him.*

13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

26 15 *For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.*

16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.

ISAAC's PEACEABILITY:

Gen 26: 18 *And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.*

19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.

20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.

Gen 26:21 *And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.*

22 And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

23 And he went up from thence to Beersheba.

ISAAC: The Frustrated Father

Gen 25: 28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

- Favoritism in the family.

Evil Results of Favoritism in Isaac's Family:

- **Isaac, at age 137, felt he was at the point of death**. Actually, he would live another 43 years and reach 180 (Gen. 35:28). His brother Ishmael had died at 137 (25:17)
- In addition, **he was half-blind at this time.**
- He **instructs Esau to kill a deer and prepare him a venison meal that he might eat** and bless him before he dies. (At the very point of death (or so he thought) Isaac's last thoughts were on his stomach!)
- His spiritual condition had apparently seriously deteriorated.
- **Rebekah overhears this conversation** and immediately enters a plot with Jacob to deceive Isaac, that he (Jacob) might obtain the blessing.
- **Jacob feels the plot will never work**. In spite of being half-blind, the lad knew his father would want to lay hands on him, and he complains: "*Behold, Esau, my brother, is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man*" (27:11).
- His mother **Rebekah reassures him**, "***Upon me be thy curse, my son***" and prepares Jacob for his deceitful action by cooking a dish similar to that of venison.
- **She then dressed him in Esau's rough clothing** and put "*the skins of the kids of the goats upon his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck*" (27:16).
- **Jacob then presents himself to Isaac as Esau**.

Gen 27: 18 *And he came unto his father, and said,* ***My father****: and he said,* ***Here am I; who art thou, my son?***

19 *And Jacob said unto his father,* ***I am Esau thy first born; I have done according as thou badest me:***

-

- When asked how he found the venison so quickly, : **Jacob lies**, **"*Because the Lord thy God brought it to me*" (27:20).**
- After some initial doubts concerning his identity, Isaac gives the blessing.

ESAU'S Frustration:

Gen 27: 30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, … Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

32 And Isaac his father said unto him, *Who art thou?* And he said, *I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.*

34 *And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father.*

35 *And he said, Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing*

ESAU : And he said, ***Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing.***

41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, *The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.*

Why is Esau now so concerned with the blessing; when once he had despised his birthright ?

1. Esau was not interested at all in assuming the family and spiritual **responsibilities** of the ***birthright.***
2. But the ***blessing*** was something different, for it carried with it a ***good and wholesome prophecy concerning the future.***

- Esau was 40 years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite: Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.

ISAAC: An **Indulgent Father and Husband:**

- He had little control over Esau, who married two heathen girls (Gen. 26:34).
- He had little control over Rebekah, who felt free to deceive him at will (Gen. 27:5-13).
- He had little control over Jacob, who looked to his mother instead of him for authority (Gen. 27:13
- FAVORITISM caused breakdown in the family of Isaac.

The SUPPLANTER Transformed into ISRAEL, The PRINCE of GOD

- Jacob means "heel catcher" or "grabber"
- Referred to as the "Supplanter" because he deceived his brother Esau on two (2) occasions:
  1. Devised ways to "steal" the BIRTHRIGHT from Esau. (a devising brother)
  2. Connives with his mother to "steal" the BLESSINGS intended for Esau. (a deceitful son)

Isaac Blesses JACOB (before sending him away to escape Esau's wrath)

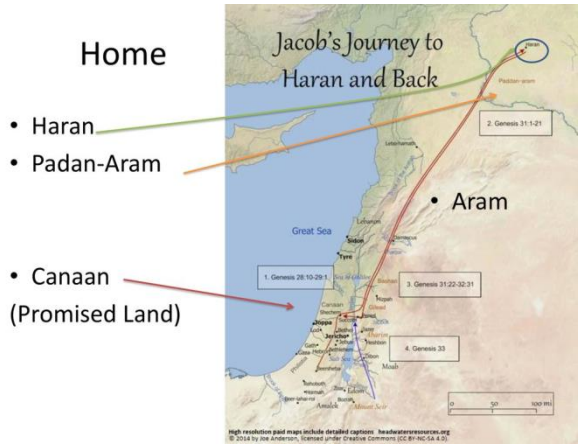
Genesis 28 :1 *And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.*

2 ***Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughers of Laban thy mother's brother.***

3 And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people;

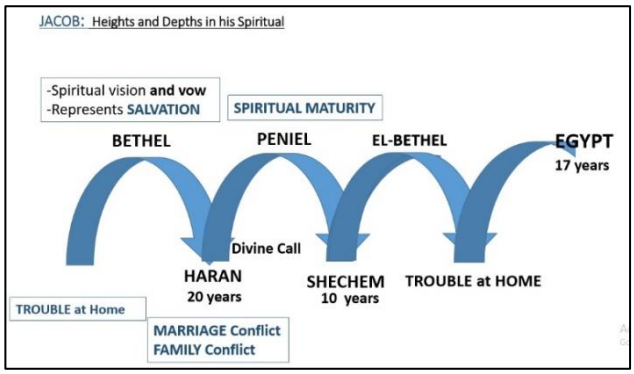
4 And give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land wherein thou art a stranger, which God gave unto Abraham.

5 And Isaac sent away Jacob:



Padanaram" The plain of Aram, or the plain of the highlands, commonly regarded as the district of Mesopotamia (q.v.) lying around Haran.

JACOB:



PLACES where Jacob experienced Spiritual Highs and Spiritual Lows

TROUBLE at Home:
- Favoritism by parents Isaac and Rebekah
- Cheats brother Esau
- Deceives aged father Isaac
- Compelled to flee for his life

BETHEL
- First Spiritual vision
- Vowed to the Lord
- Vision of a heavenly ladder, with the Lord standing above it.

Gen 28: 13 *And, behold, the Lord stood above it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;*

15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

- Represents his conversion / SALVATION experience

HARAN: (20 years)
- Deceived on wedding day
- Marital Woes (Breakdown in the Divine Institution of MARRIAGE – became a polygamist)
- Jealousy between wives
- Long struggle with father in law, Laban
- Built a tower in Mizpah, or "the watchtower." indicating armistice, separation, menace, and warning to Jacob should he afflict Laban's daughters.

"*The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another*" (Gen 31:49).

GOD'S Command to Return to the Promised Land:

Gen 31:13 ***I am the God of Bethel,*** *where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.*

Gen 35:**1** *And God said unto Jacob,* ***Arise, go up to Bethel****, and* ***dwell there****: and* ***make there an altar unto God****, that appeared unto thee ….*

PENIEL
- Alarmed at Esau's approach with 400 men, resorted to prayer.
- Wrestled with the angel of the Lord -Gains victory.
- Name changed to ISRAEL (denoting that Jacob had gained Spiritual Maturity at this point).
- Called the place PENIEL
  - ISRAEL means Prince of God
  - PENIEL means Face of God

En-route to BETHEL where God commands him to return, Jacob passed by SHECHEM and dwelt there.

SHECHEM
- Dinah was raped
- Simeon and Levi took revenge; deceived and killed all the men of Shechem (Breakdown in the divine institution of Government).
- Jacob showed no remorse but only cared about his welfare.
- Shechem is only 30 miles away from Bethel.

EL-BETHEL
- BETHEL which means the house of God becomes a place of RESTORATION
- ELBETHEL means "the God of the house of God."

TROUBLE AT HOME
- Domestic trouble continues:
- Judah's adultery with Tamar
- Reuben's fornication with Bilhah
- Jacob played FAVORITES among his sons
- The favorite son, Joseph, was sold as servant; Jacob made to think he was eaten by wild beasts.

EGYPT : His Last Days
- Commanded by God to sojourn to Egypt so he could meet Joseph again
- Lived in Egypt for 17 yrs
- Total number of Jacob's seed who first entered Egypt: **70**
- Died at 147 y/o buried at Cave of Machpelah