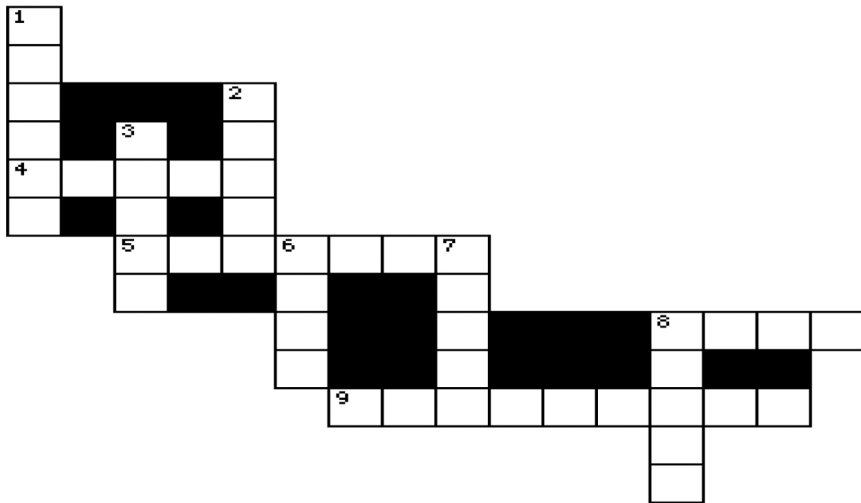


Isaac Blesses Jacob



- 8 DOWN "By _____ Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come." HEBREWS 11:20
- 4 ACROSS "Now it came to pass, when _____ was old and his eyes were so dim that he could not see, that he called Esau his older son and said to him, 'My son.' And he answered him, 'Here I am.'" GENESIS 27 :1
- 8 ACROSS Isaac said to Esau, "Make me savory _____ such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die." GENESIS 27:4
- 9 ACROSS "Now Rebekah was _____ when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt game and to bring it." GENESIS 27:5
- 5 ACROSS "Then _____ took the choice clothes of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son." GENESIS 27:15
- 7 DOWN Rebekah "put the skins of the kids of the goats on his _____ and on the smooth part of his neck." GENESIS 27:16
- 3 DOWN Isaac "did not recognize him, because his hands were _____ like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him." GENESIS 27:23
- 6 DOWN "Then it happened, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, and Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that _____ his brother came in from his hunting." GENESIS 27:30
- 1 DOWN Isaac said to Esau, "Your brother came with _____ and has taken away your blessing." GENESIS 27:35
- 2 DOWN "So Esau hated _____ because of the blessing with which his father blessed him, and Esau said in his heart, 'The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob.'" GENESIS 27:41



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JACOB STEALS THE BLESSING

By Paul Dallgas-Frey

Isaac was old now.

He was bent over. The hair he had left on his head had turned white. And he could no longer see. He knew he would die soon.

And so he called his son Esau.

"Here I am," Esau answered.

"My son, before I die, I want you to take your bow and your arrows and go out hunting. When you come back, cook the meat you have caught. Make one of your delicious meals, the kind I like so much, and bring it to me. And then I will bless you."

Now, Rebekah just happened to hear all of this from the other room (the walls of tents aren't very thick!).

As soon as Esau left, Rebekah took Jacob by the arm and said to him, "Your father has sent Esau away to hunt. When Esau gets back, he is going to fix your father's favorite dinner, and your father is going to give him his blessing.

"Quick! Do what I say! Go out into the fields and bring me two young goats, and I will make your father's favorite dinner from them. Bring it to him, and your father will think you are Esau, and he will bless you instead."

But Jacob said, "Esau is all hairy, and I am not! If my father feels me, he will know I am trying to trick him, and he will curse me

instead of blessing me!"

"Let the curse be on me," Jacob's mother said, "Just do what I say."

And so Jacob did.

When Jacob had brought the two goats, Rebekah prepared a delicious meal. Then she took some of Esau's clothes and had Jacob put them on. She took the skins from the goats and put them on Jacob's arms and the back of his neck so that he would be hairy like his brother.

Wearing the disguise his mother had made, Jacob took the steaming hot meal in to his father.

"Who is there?" his father asked.

"It is your first born son Esau," Jacob said. "I have brought your favorite dinner, just like you asked."

"How did you do it so quickly?" his father asked.

"Your God was with me, and he gave me success," Jacob answered. "Eat, and then you can give me your blessing."

"You don't sound like Esau," Isaac said. "You sound like your brother Jacob. Come here. Let me touch you."

Isaac felt the fur on Jacob's neck and arms. And then he said, "The voice is Jacob's, but the arms are Esau's."

He was about to give his blessing when he asked again, "Are you really my son Esau?"

"Yes, I am," Jacob lied.

And so Isaac ate the meal he thought Esau had brought him. When he was finished he said, "Come here, my son, and kiss me, and then I will give you my blessing."

continued next time ...