

# **Genesis 25**

## **Genesis 25.1-11**

**V 1** – Did Abraham have a right to get remarried? Yes – Sarah had been dead several years  
-What is the one cause for divorce and remarriage? *Matthew 19.9*

**V 2-4** – Descendants of Abraham and Keturah

**V 5** – Who got the estate? Isaac  
-Why? The promise was to come through him

**V 6** – Why did Abraham send all descendants out of the area? So that there would be no disputes about Isaac

**V 7** – How old did Abraham live to be? 175 years

**V 8** – Describe Abraham as he looked over his life? “Satisfied with life”  
-“gathered to his people” – beautiful expression – **Read Hebrews 11.13-16** - reference to resurrection of the dead

**V 9-10** – Who arranged for the burial of Abraham? His two sons, Isaac and Ishmael  
-Two sons were united in grief and in admiration for Abraham  
-Where was he buried? Cave of Machpelah (with Sarah)

**V 11** – God blessed Isaac

Good traits in life of Abraham – (See *Beacon Bible Commentary*, I, 98)

- Always served the one true God (no polytheism)
- Showed hospitality to strangers
- Had a forgiving spirit (Lot, Sodom and Gomorrah)
- Believed in the promises of God (even when there was no visible evidence)

## **Genesis 25.12-18**

**V 12-17** – Descendants of Ishmael

**V 18** – What is said about Ishmael? He did the opposite of what his parents wanted him to do  
-Similar to Samson  
-Ishmael was the father of the Arabs today

## **Genesis 25.19-26**

**Good traits about Isaac thus far?**

- Prepared to allow his father to kill him

- Allowed his parents to choose a wife for him
- Cooperated with Ishmael for funeral of Abraham

**V 19** – Records of genealogy

**V 20** – **How old was Isaac when he married Rebekah?** 40 years (late for children)

**V 21** – **What did Isaac do in attempt to have children?** Prayed to God

- Result?** Rebekah got pregnant

**V 22** – **What was happening to Rebekah?** A lot of activity in her body (lot of kicking)

- What did she do?** Prayed for an answer

**V 23** – **Answer from God?** Two children (twins)

- Prophecy?** Older will serve the younger
- Rebekah never forgot this prophecy

**V 24** – Twins were born

**V 25** – **What was the appearance of Esau at birth?** Red and hairy – he was a wild type of person, outdoorsman, not interested in spiritual matters

- Esau = hairy/Jacob = heel catcher

**V 26** – The differences between these two boys grew greater as they got older

## **Genesis 25.27-34**

**V 27** – **What was Esau like as he grew up?** A hunter, a man of the field

- What was Jacob like?** Peaceful, living in tents, more refined

**V 28** – **Whom did each parent favor?** Isaac = Esau (liked animals to eat), Rebekah = Jacob

- Favoritism among children will always lead to problems

**V 29** – **Who was supposed to get the birthright?** The oldest son

- However, according to ancient laws, the birthright could be transferred to a younger brother by agreement

- Under what conditions did Esau come in?** Very hungry (after hunting trip)

**V 30** – **What did he ask for?** Bowl of soup

- Edom = red

**V 31** – **Jacob's reply?** Give me the birthright

**V 32** – **Esau's response?** OK

**-His attitude?** Flippant

-In school: Teacher: “Be quiet or I will send you to the principal’s office.”

-A student (sometimes) will say: “OK – send me”

**V 33** – Jacob made Esau promise to give him the birthright

**V 34** – **Result?** Jacob fed Esau and received the birthright (family inheritance, best land, etc.)

**-What part do you think Rebekah had in all of this?** Probably had told Jacob about the prophecy before his birth – this would have encouraged Jacob to watch for a way to deceive his older brother.

-Neither son showed great spiritual maturity

**Read Hebrews 12.14-17**

**Application today:** People are selling out their souls for a bowl of soup (losing eternal salvation for things that don’t really matter)