

Pastor Ron Case
12/11/16

“Whom God Blesses”

Isaac (Part 3)

*“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.”
(Galatians 6:7)*

Blessed are the Planted

Genesis 26:2-3, 6 – (2) “And the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘Do not go down to Egypt; dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. (3) Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you...’ (6) So Isaac settled in Gerar.”

Genesis 26:12-25 – (12) “And Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. The LORD blessed him, (13) and the man became rich, and gained more and more until he became very wealthy.”

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Genesis 26:14-17 – (14) “He had possessions of flocks and herds and many servants, so that the Philistines envied him. (15) (Now the Philistines had stopped and filled with earth all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father.) (16) And Abimelech said to Isaac, ‘Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we.’ (17) So Isaac departed from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there.”

Blessed are the Patient

Genesis 26:18-25 – (18) “And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them. (19) But when Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found there a well of spring water, (20) the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, ‘The water is ours.’ So he called the name of the well Esek, because they contended with him. (21) Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that also, so he called its name Sitnah. (22) And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, saying, ‘For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.’ (23) From there he went up to Beersheba. (24) And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, ‘I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will bless you and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham’s sake.’ (25) So he built an altar

there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well."

"Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion." (Psalm 84:5-7)

Questions to Ponder:

- (1) What impacted me most from this message?**
- (2) Am I planted in the place God wants me to be, or is my heart ever wandering for "a better place"? (Ps. 92:12-14; 1 Tim. 1:3)**
- (3) Am I a peacemaker, or do I always have to get my way? (Rom. 12:18; James 4:1-3; 1 Cor. 6:7-8)**
- (4) Do I need quick results or can I patiently labor knowing God will reward? (Is. 49:3-4; 1 Cor. 15:58; Gal. 6:9)**

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)