

## **“Sensory Impairment”**

### **Isaac (Part 4)**

*“...the mature... those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.” (Hebrews 5: 14)*

### **Isaac’s True Love**

**Genesis 27:1-4** – (1) “When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his older son and said to him, ‘My son’; and he answered, ‘Here I am.’ (2) He said, ‘Behold, I am old; I do not know the day of my death.’ (3) Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me, (4) and prepare for me delicious food, such as I love, and bring it to me so that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die.”

### **Crafty Connivers**

**Genesis 27:5-10** – (5) “Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game and bring it, (6) Rebekah said to her son Jacob, ‘I heard your father speak to your brother Esau, (7) ‘Bring me game and prepare for me delicious food, that I may eat it and bless you before the LORD before I die.’ (8) Now therefore, my son, obey my voice as I command you. (9) Go to the flock and bring me two good young goats, so that I may prepare from them delicious food for your father, such as he loves. (10) And you shall bring it to your father to eat, so that he may bless you before he dies.’”

### **Operating on 40% Discernment**

**Genesis 27:18-25** – (18) “So [Jacob] went in to his father and said, ‘My father.’ And he said, ‘Here I am. Who are you, my son?’ (19) Jacob said to his father, ‘I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.’ (20) But Isaac said to his son, ‘How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?’ He answered, ‘Because the LORD your God granted me success.’ (21) Then Isaac said to Jacob, ‘Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.’ (22) So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, who felt him and said, ‘The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.’ (23) And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands. So he blessed him. (24) He said, ‘Are you really my son Esau?’ He answered, ‘I am.’ (25) Then he said, ‘Bring it near to me, that I may eat of my son’s game and bless you.’ So he brought it near to him, and

he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank.”

### **Regret of the ‘Appetite-Driven’**

**Genesis 27:30-33** – (30) “As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, when Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his hunting. (31) He also prepared delicious food and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, ‘Let my father arise and eat of his son’s game, that you may bless me.’ (32) His father Isaac said to him, ‘Who are you?’ He answered, ‘I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.’ (33) **Then Isaac trembled very violently** and said, ‘Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.’”

**Those Ruled by their Senses come to Regret it.  
Those Ruled by the Lord & Seeking First the Kingdom of God  
are Blessed in every way.**

### **Kingdom then Consumption**

“When you sit down to eat with a ruler, observe carefully what is before you, and put a knife to your throat if you are given to appetite. Do not desire his delicacies, for they are deceptive food.” (Proverbs 23:1-3)

### **Discern when to Desist**

“Do not toil to acquire wealth; be discerning enough to desist. When your eyes light on it, it is gone, for suddenly it sprouts wings, flying like an eagle toward heaven.” (Proverbs 23:4-5)

### **Deny the Devil’s Dainties**

“Do not eat the bread of a man who is stingy (whose eye is evil); do not desire his delicacies, for he is like one who is inwardly calculating. ‘Eat and drink!’ he says to you, but his heart is not with you. You will vomit up the morsels that you have eaten, and waste your pleasant words.” (Proverbs 23:6-8)

### **Questions to Ponder:** \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) What impacted me most from this message?
- (2) Which “god” was Paul concerned about dominating certain people? (Phil. 3:19)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

**(This message is available for review and sharing at [alivein.me](http://alivein.me))**

Pastor Ron Case  
4/30/17

## **“Meditation Medication”**

### **Isaac (Part 5)**

*“But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me.” (Psalm 131:2)*

### **An Evening without Netflix?**

**Genesis 24:62-64** – (62) “Now Isaac had returned from Beer-lahai-roi and was dwelling in the Negeb. (63) And Isaac went out to meditate (to muse pensively, to reflect) in the field toward evening. And he lifted up his eyes and saw, and behold, there were camels coming. (64) And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she dismounted from the camel.”

### **Where God is Found**

**1 Kings 19:11-13** – (11) “And [God] said, ‘Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.’ And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. (12) And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. (13) And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, ‘What are you doing here, Elijah?’”

**Acts 10:9-11, 19** – (9) “The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. (10) And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance (11) and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. (19) And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him...”

### **The Natural Nod to Noise**

**Isaiah 30:15-16** – (15) “For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, ‘In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.’ But you were unwilling, (16) and you said, ‘No! We will flee upon horses’...”

**[Demon Screwtape to his nephew Wormwood]:**

“Music and silence—how I detest them both! How thankful we should be that ever since our Father entered Hell no square inch of infernal space and no moment of infernal time has been surrendered to either of those abominable forces. All has been occupied by Noise—Noise, the grand dynamism, the audible expression of all that is exultant, ruthless, and virile—Noise which alone defends us from silly qualms, despairing scruples, and impossible desires. We will make the whole universe a noise in the end. We have already made great strides in this direction as regards the Earth. The melodies and silences of Heaven will be shouted down in the end.” (C.S. Lewis)

**Meditate Upon:**

**God’s Word**

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.” (Psalm 1:1-2)

**God’s Work in My Life**

“I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.” (Psalm 143:5)

“Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.” (1 Timothy 4:14-15 NKJV)

**God’s Wondrous Ways**

“On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.” (Psalm 145:5)

**Questions to Ponder:**

- (1) What impacted me most from this message?
- (2) Do I work at conditioning my mind? (Rom. 12:2; Phil. 4:8)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

**(This message is available for review and sharing at [alivein.me](http://alivein.me))**