

1. Buy-It-Now—Pay Later

• ²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau became an expert hunter, an outdoorsman, but Jacob was a quiet man who stayed at home. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau because he had a taste for wild game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field exhausted. ³⁰ He said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, because I'm exhausted." That is why he was also named Edom [*That is, RED*].

³¹ Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

³² "Look," said Esau, "I'm about to die, so what good is a birthright to me?"

³³ Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to Jacob and sold his birthright to him. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave bread and lentil stew to Esau; he ate, drank, got up, and went away. So Esau despised his birthright.

—Genesis 24:27-34, Holman Christian Standard Version



• ⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

—Galatians 6:7, New International Version

★ Malachi 1:2-3

2. Esau Lacked Godly Sorrow

• ¹⁰ Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

—2 Corinthians 7:10, New King James Version

• 16 Be careful that no one commits sexual sin. And be careful that no one is like Esau and never thinks about God. As the oldest son, Esau would have inherited everything from his father. But he sold all that for a single meal. 17 You remember that after Esau did this, he wanted to get his father's blessing. He wanted that blessing so much that he cried. But his father refused to give him the blessing, because Esau could find no way to change what he had done.

—Hebrews 12:16-17 Easy-to-Read Version

• 34 When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!"

35 But he said, "Your brother came with guile, and he has taken away your blessing."

36 Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright; and behold, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"

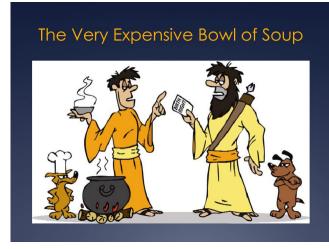
37 Isaac answered Esau, "Behold, I have made him your lord, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants,

and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?" ³⁸ Esau said to his father, "Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father." And



Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

-Genesis 27:34-38, Revised Standard Version



3. All That Is In This World

• The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and pleasing to the eyes, and could fill the desire of making one wise. So she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave some to her husband, and he ate.

—Genesis 3:6, New Life Version

The Lust of the Flesh
The Lust of the Eye
The Pride of Life

• ¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

—1 John 2:15-17, New King James Version

INTRODUCTION: You have a choice. You can choose to eat from the Tree of Life, or else you can eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. The only problem is, you can't choose the consequences.

Adam and Eve made the wrong choice. Esau made the wrong choice also. Or did he?

In the New Testament we are told: "Here is what happened. Rebekah's twins had not even been born. They hadn't done anything good or bad yet. So they show that God's purpose is based firmly on his free choice. ¹² It was not because of anything they did but because of God's choice. So Rebekah was told, "The older son will serve the younger one." (Genesis 25:23) ¹³ It is written, "I chose Jacob instead of Esau." (Malachi 1:2,3)

-Romans 9:11-13, New International Reader's Version

No, I'm not preaching predestination. I believe that God has given us a free will. However, I do believe that God does know what choices that we are going to make in life.

Can I encourage you to do something today? Can I provoke you "to love and good works"? Can I also encourage you to please keep making the sacrifice of coming together for fellowship? God will bless you for all that you do. When we get together we are making a choice to worship God and encourage one another.

The MSG puts it like this: "P2-25 So let's do it—full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:22-25, The Message).

Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah is coming soon! Let's not be like Esau who didn't care about the future. Instead, let's keep on keeping on and loving, praying for and encouraging one another until the Lord returns.

CONCLUSION: True repentance, something that Esau didn't have, is what it takes to obtain forgiveness. The Lord Yeshua (Jesus) paid the price. Our job is to truly repent and tell God we are sorry and put our faith in the Savior, Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah. Here's a prayer that you can pray: Dear God, I am a sinner. I am a sinner by nature and a sinner by choice. But I repent for all my sins, and I put my faith in your Son and his shed blood. In the name of Yeshua (Jesus) I pray, amen.



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