

Isaac the Passive Patriarch: The Holy Commission

Genesis 28: 1-5



Up with -
University ?
Macdonalds ?
but absolute
Speltt.
ME Oral fruits +
R Fruitless
AT Kindred spirits
Down with -
Breakfast at 12.30
Walking down
Newport Road
in the rain!
- at last time
a soggy wet
pump

1. Speaking God's blessing
2. Passing on God's promises

1. Speaking God's blessing

May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples. May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now live as an alien, the land God gave to Abraham (Genesis 28: 3-4).

- Specific

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May God give you of heaven's dew and of earth's richness – an abundance of grain and new wine. May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed (Genesis 27: 28-29).

Prayers that aim everywhere in general, hit nothing in particular.



- Authoritative

'Isaac's words of blessing to the departing Jacob precisely anticipate the eventual outcome...'
(The NIV Bible Commentary)

The Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger' (Genesis 25: 23).

The effective way to use our blessing energy is to watch what the Father is doing and take our cue from him.
(From The Road of Blessing by Penelope Wilcock)

'I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can only do what he sees his Father doing'
(John 5:19).

The tongue has the power of life and death
(Proverbs 18:21).

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light
(1 Peter 2:9).

By myself, I cannot bless anyone, but like Aaron, I can speak the words, "The Lord bless you", because all the goodness, all the saving power and all the blessing come from God.
(From The Promise of Blessing by Kate Patterson)

• Gracious

'I have loved you,' says the Lord.
But you ask, 'How have you loved us?'
'Was not Esau Jacob's brother?' the Lord says, 'Yet I have loved Jacob...'
(Malachi 1:2).

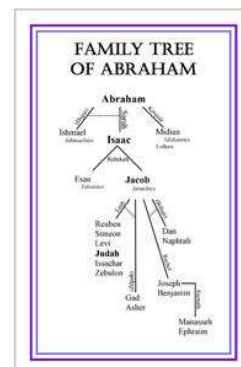
Romans 9: 10-16

'...bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you' (Luke 6:28).

2. Passing on God's promises

May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of **peoples**. May he give you and your descendants the **blessing** given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the **land** where you now live as an alien, the land God gave to Abraham
(Genesis 28: 3-4).

- To Abraham's descendants



- To us

If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise (Galatians 3:29).

But our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20).

He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit (Galatians 3:14).

Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance... (Ephesians 1:13-14).

- To our children

'I will not let you go unless you bless me' (Genesis 32:26).

But Esau said, 'I already have plenty my brother' (Genesis 33:9).

But Jacob insisted. 'For to see your face is like seeing the face of God' (Genesis 33:10).

Please accept the present that was brought to you (Genesis 33:11).

The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call (Acts 2:39).

