

**The Lives of
Jacob & Joseph**



➤ Gen. 25:19-33



Life of Jacob

Some General Observations:

- 1) *Jacob's response appears to be QUICK*
- 2) *Comparing vs. 30 & 31 = ask/GIVE*
- 3) *Highly unusual – asking for the birthright*

Life of Jacob

Genesis 25:32-34 (b'kora)

- 1) *Stresses the deep relationship to his father*
 - 2) *He is the principal heir*
 - 3) *Special status throughout his lifetime*
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Life of Jacob

Final Observations:

- 1) *The text only seems to judge Esau*

Hebrews 12:15-17 See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

- a) *“root of bitterness”*
 - b) *“unholy”*
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Life of Jacob

Final Observations:

- 1) *The text only seems to judge Esau*
 - 2) *Even with God's hand upon him Jacob lives a difficult life*
 - Human strife and Divine intrusion often go hand in hand
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Life of Jacob

Final Observations:

- 1) *The text only seems to judge Esau*
 - 2) *Even with God's hand upon him Jacob lives a difficult life*
 - 3) *Even in the midst of our manipulation of life God's purposes are moving*
 - God has the power to make promises and KEEP THEM in spite of human interaction to the contrary
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Life of Jacob

Final Observations:

- 1) *The text only seems to judge Esau*
 - 2) *Even with God's hand upon him Jacob lives a difficult life*
 - 3) *Even in the midst of our manipulation of life God's purposes are moving*
 - 4) *The Oracle of Jacob anticipates the focus on Jesus*
 - "first shall be last and the last shall be first"*
 - I Cor. 1:28 "God chose what is low and despised in the world to bring to nothing the things that are"
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