

The Battle Within!

Malachi 1:1-5; Genesis 25

² "I have always loved you," says the LORD. But you retort, "Really? How have you loved us?" And the LORD replies, "This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, ³ but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau's inheritance into a desert for jackals."⁴ Esau's descendants in Edom may say, "We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins." But the LORD of Heaven's Armies replies, "They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as 'The Land of Wickedness,' and their people will be called 'The People with Whom the LORD Is Forever Angry.'" Malachi 1:2-4

The LORD answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins. ²² But the two children struggled with each other in her womb. So she went to ask the LORD about it. "Why is this happening to me?" she asked. ²³ And the LORD told her, "The sons in your womb will become two nations. From the very beginning, the two nations will be rivals. One nation will be stronger than the other; and your older son will serve your younger son." Genesis 25:21-23

The Old Testament Events in many cases are Pictures of our _____ journey!

Esau and Jacob represent the FLESH (old sin nature) and the SPIRIT (new nature)!

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. ¹⁷ The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions..... Galatians 5:16-17

ESAU REPRESENTS THE _____ NATURE

(Adamic nature we have first from our birth)

Esau came out RED "Red" = "Adam"

Esau was a born LOSER

Esau was the elder (first)

Esau was opposed to things of God

JACOB REPRESENTS THE _____ NATURE

(We get this one at our second birth)

but Jacob had a quiet temperament, preferring to stay at home.

Jacob had a more settled spirit

Jacob was a shepherd

Esau was a man of the field

Jacob a man of the fold

Esau had a killer instinct

Jacob was a protector

Esau was focused on earthly temporary matters

Jacob was focused on Spiritual eternal matters

What good is my birthright to me now?

but trade me your rights as the firstborn son.

He showed contempt for his rights as the firstborn.

Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright as the firstborn son for a single meal. ¹⁷ You know that afterward, when he wanted his father's blessing, he was rejected. Hebrews 12:16-17

Are You an "Esau" or a "Jacob"?

Was Jacob perfect? No Way! But God saw Jacob's _____ not Jacob's Deed!

⁸ While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek attacked them. ⁹ Moses commanded Joshua, "Choose some men to go out and fight the army of Amalek for us. Tomorrow, I will stand at the top of the hill, holding the staff of God in my hand." ¹⁰ So Joshua did what Moses had commanded and fought the army of Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed to the top of a nearby hill. ¹¹ As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage. ¹² Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset. ¹³ As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek...

Exodus 17:8-13

Who was this guy Amalek? Esau's grandson Genesis 36:9-12

How to Have Victory over the Flesh! Exodus 4

SURRENDER---Lift up the Rod—Rod represents (Ex. 4) surrender our strengths, ability, will to Him

Victory over the Flesh is _____not Man-driven!

There is nothing worse than the Flesh trying to be Holy! (Romans 7:18)

Some are not victorious over our sin nature because we are trying to fight a battle already lost rather than claiming a victory already won!

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. **Then** you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.

How to Be Defeated by the Flesh! I Samuel 15

*I have decided to settle accounts with the nation of Amalek for opposing Israel when they came from Egypt.
³ Now go and completely destroy the entire Amalekite nation..... Saul and his men **spared** Agag's life and kept the best of the sheep and goats, the cattle, the fat calves, and the lambs—everything, in fact, **that appealed to them**But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! **Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.**"²³ Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols.*

**Saul was Carnal by trying give to God the best of what God _____!
God doesn't want anything the flesh as to offer!**

¹⁰ "So I killed him," the Amalekite told David, "for I knew he couldn't live. Then I took his crown and his armband, and I have brought them here to you, my lord." 2 Samuel 1:10

**If you spare the flesh it will Kill you and take your Crown!
Is it time to throw your "rod" on the ground?**