

## **How the Mighty Have Fallen** **(Esau: Genesis 25:19-34)**

### **Characters and Context (Vs. 27-28)**

- **Esau** (Older brother) and **Jacob** (The younger brother)
  
- **Birthright** first born son received double portion of inheritance (money), declared judge of the family (power), and favor from God.

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**Please feel free to come down to the front  
for prayer after service.  
"...pray for one another..." James 5:16**

### **What can we learn from Esau?**

- I. We must understand our appetites and how they work. (Vs.29-30)

- God created our appetites and sin distorted them.
- Appetites are never fully and finally satisfied.
- Appetites always whisper “now” never “later.”

*“Then he said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob...’”*  
*Exodus 3:6 (NIV)*

**H** ungry  
**A** ngry  
**L** onely  
**T** ired

*“A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob...”*  
*Matthew 1:1-2 (NIV)*

*“...So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.”*  
*Genesis 25:33 (NIV)*

**II.** We need to reframe our desires in light of what God has promised and look to the future before we make decisions. (Vs. 31-33)

**Question: What am I being tempted to trade for a “bowl of stew?”**

*‘...sell me your birthright.’”* *Genesis 25:31 (NIV)*

*“Look, I am about to die,’ Esau said.”* *Genesis 25:32a (NIV)*

**III.** We need to decide before hand that we will refrain from trading our future for a bowl of stew.

- Impact Bias: Takes a simple appetite and magnifies it out of proportion.
- Focalism: Focuses our minds on one thing and blurs out everything else.

*“Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.”*  
*Genesis 25:34 (NIV)*

*“What good is the birthright to me?”* *Genesis 25:32b (NIV)*

Within moments the stew was gone and so was Esau’s future.