

# Genesis 25:27-34

25:25 – The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau.

|             |             |                               |          |               |                |              |             |              |                               |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 6215 [e]    | 8034 [e]    | 7121 [e]                      | 8181 [e] | 155 [e]       | 3605 [e]       | 132 [e]      | 7223 [e]    | 3318 [e]     |                               |
| ‘ê-śaw.     | śa-mōw      | way-yiq·rə·‘ū                 | śê-‘ār;  | kə-‘ad·de·ret | kul·lōw        | ‘ad·mō·w·nī, | hā·ri·śō·wn | way·yê·śê    |                               |
| עֵשָׂו      | שְׁמוֹ      | וַיִּקְרָא                    | –        | שַׁעַר        | כְּאֵדָרֶת     | כָּלֹ        | אֲדָמוֹנִי  | הָרִאשׁוֹן   | וַיָּצֵא                      |
| Esau        | his name    | so they called                |          | hairy         | like a cloak   | all over     | ruddy       | the first    | And came out                  |
| N-proper-ms | N-msc   3ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3mp |          | N-ms          | Prep-k   N-fsc | N-msc   3ms  | Adj-ms      | Art   Adj-ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3ms |

## 1. Names

- Sometimes names reflect or remember a situation at birth
- Names can also indicate destiny and the true meaning of the name is revealed latter during life

## 2. Esau

- Born “hairy like a garment”
  - Wordplay:
    - 'esaw – red
    - Se'ar – “hair”

25:26 – Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

|             |                               |             |                |                 |                      |             |                |           |               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| 8034 [e]    | 7121 [e]                      | 6215 [e]    | 6119 [e]       | 270 [e]         | 3027 [e]             | 251 [e]     | 3318 [e]       | 3651 [e]  | 310 [e]       |
| śa-mōw      | way-yiq·rā                    | 'ê-śaw,     | ba-'ā-qêb      | 'ō·hē·zeṭ       | wə-yā·dōw            | 'a·hīw,     | yā·śa          | kēn       | wə-'a·hā·rê-  |
| שְׁמוֹ      | וַיִּקְרָא                    | –           | עֵשָׂו         | אָחֲזָה         | וְיָדוֹ              | אָחִיו      | יָצָא          | כֵּן      | וַאֲחֵרֶיךָ   |
| his name    | so was called                 | of Esau     | on the heel    | took hold       | and his hand         | his brother | came out       | afterward | And           |
| N-msc   3ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3ms | N-proper-ms | Prep-b   N-msc | V-Qal-Prtcpl-fs | Conj-w   N-fsc   3ms | N-msc   3ms | V-Qal-Perf-3ms | Adv       | Conj-w   Prep |

|               |                    |          |           |           |                      |             |
|---------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|
| 853 [e]       | 3205 [e]           | 8141 [e] | 8346 [e]  | 1121 [e]  | 3327 [e]             | 3290 [e]    |
| 'o-tām.       | bə-le·deṭ          | ša-nah   | šiš-šim   | ben-      | wə-yiś·haq           | ya-'ā-qob;  |
| אֹתָם         | בְּלֶדֶת           | שָׁנָה   | שִׁשִּׁים | בֶּן      | וַיִּצְחָק           | יַעֲקֹב     |
| them          | when she bore      | years    | sixty     | [was] old | and Isaac            | Jacob       |
| DirObjM   3mp | Prep-b   V-Qal-Inf | N-fs     | Number-cp | N-msc     | Conj-w   N-proper-ms | N-proper-ms |

## 1. Jacob was named for his action→ Grasping

- אָחַז** – *achaz* /a-khaz/ - “seized, take hold, held, caught, fastened, hold, seizes”

## 2. In Torah the yhoiunger is often more favored:

- Abel – Cain
- Isaac – Ishmael
- Joseph – brothers
- Moses – Aaron
- Even, later, Solomon – brothers

3. Does Rebeca remember the prophecy of the second born? Does this lead her to take action in ch. 27?

4. Twenty years to have children.

25:27 – When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents.

|          |              |          |          |                 |          |             |                               |                               |
|----------|--------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7704 [e] | 376 [e]      | 6718 [e] | 3045 [e] | 376 [e]         | 6215 [e] | 1961 [e]    | 5288 [e]                      | 1431 [e]                      |
| ša-deh;  | 'iš          | ša-yid   | yō-dē-a' | 'iš             | 'ē-šāw,  | way-hī      | han-nē-'a-rīm,                | way-yig-dē-lu                 |
| –        | שָׂדֶה       | אִישׁ    | צֹדֵד    | אִישׁ           | עֵשָׂו   | וַיְהִי     | הַנְּעָרִים                   | וַיִּגְדְּלוּ                 |
|          | of the field | a man    | a hunter | skillful        | a man    | Esau        | and was                       | the boys                      |
|          | N-ms         | N-msc    | N-ms     | V-Qal-Prtcpl-ms | N-ms     | N-proper-ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3ms | Art   N-mp                    |
|          |              |          |          |                 |          |             |                               | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3mp |

**Sayid** or **SUD** = "hunter" in 25:27  
compare to  
**ZED** or **ZUD** = "cook", "prepare" in 25:29

|            |                 |          |         |                      |
|------------|-----------------|----------|---------|----------------------|
| 168 [e]    | 3427 [e]        | 8535 [e] | 376 [e] | 3290 [e]             |
| 'ō-hā-līm, | yō-šēb          | tām,     | 'iš     | we-ya-'ā-qōb         |
| אֹהֲלִים:  | יָשַׁב          | תָּם     | אִישׁ   | וַיַּעֲקֹב           |
| tents      | dwelling in     | mild     | a man   | but Jacob was        |
| N-mp       | V-Qal-Prtcpl-ms | Adj-ms   | N-ms    | Conj-w   N-proper-ms |

1. The boys were very different
2. The provider of food is favored by Isaac
3. Jacob is “domesticated”; civilized, not a wilderness man.
4. There is no negative evaluation of Jacob

25:28 – Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

|         |                 |                      |                      |               |          |             |         |             |                               |
|---------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 853 [e] | 157 [e]         | 7259 [e]             | 6310 [e]             | 6718 [e]      | 3588 [e] | 6215 [e]    | 853 [e] | 3327 [e]    | 157 [e]                       |
| 'et-    | 'ō-he-bet       | we-rib-qāh           | bē-pīw;              | ša-yid        | kī-      | 'ē-šāw      | 'et-    | yiš-hāq     | way-ye-'ē-hab                 |
| אֶת-    | אָהַבְתָּ       | וַרְבֵּכָה           | בָּפִיו              | צֹדֵד         | כִּי-    | עֵשָׂו      | אֶת-    | יִצְחָק     | וַיֹּאֲהַב                    |
| -       | loved           | but Rebekah          | he ate               | [of the] game | because  | Esau        | -       | Isaac       | And loved                     |
| DirObjM | V-Qal-Prtcpl-fs | Conj-w   N-proper-fs | Prep-b   N-msc   3ms | N-ms          | Conj     | N-proper-ms | DirObjM | N-proper-ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3ms |

3290 [e]  
ya-'ā-qōb.  
יַעֲקֹב:  
Jacob  
N-proper-ms

1. “**Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated**” from Malachi 1:2-3 and used by Paul in Romans 9:13
2. Parent favoritism:
  - a. Isaac’s reason is the food
  - b. Rebecca’s reason is not given. Is it to be assumed that it was because of the prophecy?
3. The prophecy included two nations. This is easy to assume because the Lord’s word to Abraham is that he’d be the father of MANY nations.

25:29 – Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted.

|             |                  |            |          |             |                               |          |             |                                |
|-------------|------------------|------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 5889 [e]    | 1931 [e]         | 7704 [e]   | 4480 [e] | 6215 [e]    | 935 [e]                       | 5138 [e] | 3290 [e]    | 2102 [e]                       |
| 'a-yēp.     | we-hū            | haš-ša-deh | min-     | 'ē-šāw      | way-yā-bō                     | nā-zīd;  | ya-'ā-qōb   | way-yā-zeq                     |
| עָיֵף:      | וְהוּא           | הַשָּׂדֶה  | מִן-     | עֵשָׂו      | וַיָּבֹא                      | נֹזֵד    | יַעֲקֹב     | וַיִּצְדֵּק                    |
| [was] weary | and he           | the field  | from     | Esau        | and came in                   | a stew   | Jacob       | And cooked                     |
| Adj-ms      | Conj-w   Pro-3ms | Art   N-ms | Prep     | N-proper-ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmpf-3ms | N-ms     | N-proper-ms | Conj-w   V-Hifl-Conseclmpf-3ms |

1. Jacob enjoyed cooking and was good at it
2. Word Play:
  - a. Esau **SUD** translated “hunter” in 25:27
  - b. Jacob **ZOD** translated “cook” in 25:29

25:30 – And Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!”  
(Therefore his name was called Edom.)

|          |          |              |              |              |          |              |                      |             |         |             |                               |
|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 5889 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2088 [e]     | 122 [e]      | 122 [e]      | 4480 [e] | 4994 [e]     | 3938 [e]             | 3290 [e]    | 413 [e] | 6215 [e]    | 559 [e]                       |
| 'a-yêp   | kî       | haz-zeh,     | hā-'a-dôm    | hā-'a-dôm    | min-     | nā           | hal-'î-tê-nî         | ya-'ā-qōb,  | 'el-    | 'ê-sāw      | way-yō-mer                    |
| עֵיף     | כִּי     | הַזֶּה       | הָאֹדָם      | הָאֹדָם      | מִן      | נָא          | הַלִּיטְנִי          | יַעֲקֹב     | אֶל-    | עִשָׂו      | וַיֹּאמֶר                     |
| weary    | for      | this         | [stew]       | red          | with     | please       | feed me              | Jacob       | to      | Esau        | And said                      |
| Adj-ms   | Conj     | Art   Pro-ms | Art   Adj-ms | Art   Adj-ms | Prep     | Interjection | V-Hifil-Imp-ms   1cs | N-proper-ms | Prep    | N-proper-ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-ConsecImpf-3ms |

אֹדָם

**adom**

/aw-dome/

sounds similar to "Edom"

|             |             |                |          |          |           |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 123 [e]     | 8034 [e]    | 7121 [e]       | 3651 [e] | 5921 [e] | 595 [e]   |
| 'ê-dō-wm.   | šə-mōw      | qā-rā-         | kên      | 'al-     | 'ā-nō-kî; |
| אֲדָוִים    | שְׁמוֹ      | קָרָא          | כֵּן     | עַל-     | אֲנִכִּי  |
| Edom        | his name    | was called     | thus     | upon     | I [am]    |
| N-proper-ms | N-msc   3ms | V-Qal-Perf-3ms | Adv      | Prep     | Pro-1cs   |

- “Red” in Hebrew adom is a word play sounding like Edom where Esau will settle, so in Hebrew this sounds like Esau saying, “**Give me some Edom**” when he says, “**Give me some Adom**”
- Why is the great hunter hungry? Failure?
  - Esau is presented as:
    - A hairy man
    - Wilderness man
    - Failure at hunting
    - Begging for food
    - Uncultured wanting to gulp down some “red stuff”
    - Willing to give up his birthright
    - Unaware of the Abrahamic Covenant
    - Basically, a loser in life
- Hebrew could translate as: “Quick! Let me gulp down some of that red stuff!”

25:31 – Jacob said, “Sell me your birthright now.”

|                    |                 |           |                    |                    |             |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1062 [e]           | 853 [e]         | 3117 [e]  | 4376 [e]           | 3290 [e]           | 559 [e]     |
| lî. bə-kō-rā-tə-kā | 'et-            | kay-yō-wm | mik-rāh            | ya-'ā-qōb;         | way-yō-mer  |
| לִי                | בְּכֹרֶתְךָ     | אֶת-      | כַּיְיֹוֹם         | מִכְרָהּ           | וַיֹּאמֶר   |
| to me              | your birthright | -         | as of this day     | Sell               | Jacob       |
| Prep   1cs         | N-fsc   2ms     | DirObjM   | Prep-k, Art   N-ms | V-Qal-Imp-ms   3fs | N-proper-ms |

- “sell me your birthright”
  - Primogeniture /pri-muh-jeh-nuh-chr/ = privilege of firstborn for inheritance
    - Not universally practiced
    - Default position of many cultures
  - Other ancient examples of inheritance:
    - Youngest son is favored
    - Inheritance equally divided
- “Birthright” referred to the material inheritance
  - Firstborn receives a double share
    - This comes with responsibility of the extended family:
      - Mother
      - Unmarried sisters

### 3. Burial plots of deceased

- Notice red appears again in the color of the stew Esau desires and is the color of the land (Edom) that Esau will inherit
- “BIRTHRIGHT” is **BEKORA** in Gen 25  
“BLESSING” is **BERAKA** in Gen. 27 where the father acknowledges the rightful heir
- Does Jacob know the prophecy?  
Or, is he just acting out his part without knowing?  
Does Jacob know the promise to Abraham or the Abrahamic Covenant?

25:32 – Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?”

|                        |                    |                         |                           |                      |                     |                     |                     |   |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1062 [e]<br>bə·kō·rah. | 2088 [e]<br>lī zeh | 4100 [e]<br>wə·lām·mah- | 4191 [e]<br>lā·mūt;       | 1980 [e]<br>hō·w·lêk | 595 [e]<br>'a·nō·kī | 2009 [e]<br>hin·nêh | 6215 [e]<br>'ê·šaw, | 559 [e]<br>way·yō·mer                       |
| בְּכֹרָהּ: ?           | לִי                | זֶה                     | וְלָמָּה -                | לָמוּת               | הוּלֵךְ             | אֲנִכִּי            | הִנֵּה              | וַיֹּאמֶר 32                                |
| birthright             | to me              | this                    | so what [is]              | to die               | about               | I [am]              | behold              | Esau And said                               |
| N-fs                   | Prep   1cs         | Pro-ms                  | Conj-w, Prep-I   Interrog | Prep-I   V-Qal-Inf   | V-Qal-Prtcpl-ms     | Pro-1cs             | Interjection        | N-proper-ms Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms |

25:33 – Jacob said, “Swear to me now.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob.

|            |                                   |                        |            |                           |                        |                                 |
|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| lōw;       | 7650 [e]<br>way·yīš·šā·ba'        | 3117 [e]<br>kay·yō·wm, | lī         | 7650 [e]<br>hiš·šā·bē·'āh | 3290 [e]<br>ya·'ā·qōb, | 559 [e]<br>way·yō·mer           |
| לּוֹ       | וַיִּשָּׁבַע                      | כַּיּוֹם               | לִי        | הִשָּׁבַעַה               | יַעֲקֹב                | וַיֹּאמֶר 33                    |
| to him     | So he swore                       | as of this day         | to me      | Swear                     | Jacob                  | and said                        |
| Prep   3ms | Conj-w   V-Nifal-Conseclmperf-3ms | Prep-k, Art   N-ms     | Prep   1cs | V-Nifal-imp-ms   3fs      | N-proper-ms            | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms |

  

|                           |                          |                 |                                 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 3290 [e]<br>lā·ya·'ā·qōb. | 1062 [e]<br>bə·kō·rā·tōw | 853 [e]<br>'et- | 4376 [e]<br>way·yim·kōr         |
| לְיַעֲקֹב:                | בְּכֹרָתוֹ               | אֶת-            | וַיִּמְכֹּר                     |
| to Jacob                  | his birthright           | -               | and sold                        |
| Prep-I   N-proper-ms      | N-fsc   3ms              | DirObjM         | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms |

- Jacob does not lie, he uses an opportunity
- Jacob values something important that Esau will give up for immediate satisfaction
- “Sell me” of 25:31 becomes “Swear to me” in 25:32.

25:34 – Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

|                                 |                                 |                        |                      |                    |                        |                    |                          |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 8354 [e]<br>way·yê·šet,         | 398 [e]<br>way·yō·kal           | 5742 [e]<br>'ā·dā·šīm, | 5138 [e]<br>ū·nā·zīd | 3899 [e]<br>le·hem | 6215 [e]<br>lā·'ê·šaw, | 5414 [e]<br>nā·tan | 3290 [e]<br>wə·ya·'ā·qōb |
| וַיֵּשֶׁת׃ 2                    | וַיֹּאכַל 1                     | עֲדָשִׁים              | וּנְזִיד             | לֶחֶם              | לְעֵשָׂו               | נָתַן              | וַיִּתֵּן 34             |
| and drank                       | then he ate                     | of lentils             | and stew             | bread              | Esau                   | gave               | And Jacob                |
| Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms | N-mp                   | Conj-w   N-msc       | N-ms               | Prep-I   N-proper-ms   | V-Qal-Perf-3ms     | Conj-w   N-proper-ms     |

  

|                              |                 |                    |                       |                                 |                                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1062 [e]<br>s hab·bə·kō·rah. | 853 [e]<br>'et- | 6215 [e]<br>'ê·šaw | 959 [e]<br>way·yi·bez | 1980 [e]<br>way·yê·lak;         | 6965 [e]<br>way·yā·qām          |
| וְהַבְּכֹרָהּ: s             | אֶת-            | עֵשָׂו             | וַיִּבְזֶה            | וַיֵּלֶךְ 4                     | וַיָּקָם 3                      |
| [his] birthright             | -               | Esau               | thus despised         | and went his way                | and arose                       |
| Punc                         | Art   N-fs      | DirObjM            | N-proper-ms           | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms | Conj-w   V-Qal-Conseclmperf-3ms |

- “Despised” means, “Esau could not have cared less about the birth right.”

2. Four verbs in Hebrew (unusual) in sequence present the image of a short lived experience of quickly filling his stomach with no thought: ATE, DRANK, ROSE, WENT
3. “Despised” – **הִזָּה** – *bazah* /bah-ZAH/ - “despised, despise, despises, careless, contempt, despicable, disdained”

## **ATE + DRANK + ROSE + WENT = DESPISE**

***“Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. 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.”***

- Hebrews 12:14-17

1. “sexual immoral” is **πορνός**  *pornos* which does have overtones in the NT of unfaithful to God
2. “unholy” or “irreligious”, “profane” is **βεβελός**  *bebelos* which could be the only word in this verse describing Esau.
3. Esau does take a foreign wife
4. Jacob is never condemned in this text in Genesis or Hebrews