



The account of

Isaac

Genesis 25:19

Journey Through the Bible (15)

The Patriarchs (4)

Background

- Isaac is a transitional character
- He is the child of promise to Abraham (at 100 years old)
- His life - **Genesis 21 - 35**
- An obedient follower of YHWH with great faith
- Lived 180 years
- Was passive, but successful. Blessed by God with great possessions, etc.

Background

- The promise of Abraham (Gen. 12:1-7) is repeated to him - **Genesis 26:3-5**
- Mentioned 20x in the NT
 - Lineage - 3x - **Matt. 1:2, etc.**
 - 3 patriarchs - (7x) cf. **Acts 7:32**
 - Promised seed - **Rom. 9:7, 10;**
Galatians 4:28
 - His sacrifice - **Heb. 11:17-18,**
James 2:21
 - His faith - **Hebrews 11:9, 20**

Isaac's Life

- Born to Abraham and Sarah - **Gen 21,**
Willingly offered **Gen. 22**
- Married to Rebekah - **Genesis 24** at
40 - **Genesis 25:20**
- Not a Canaanite - **Gen. 24:2-3,** but
a near relative
- After 20 years of marriage, Rebekah
finally conceives - **Gen. 25:20-21,**
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Isaac's Life

- Jacob and Esau born - **Gen 25:23-27**, they struggle
- As they grow, Esau becomes a mighty hunter, Jacob a mild man around house - **Genesis 25:27**
- Favoritism - **Gen. 25:28**
- Esau sells his birthright - **Gen. 25:29-34.**
Esau in NT - **Rom. 9:13**,
Heb. 11:20, 12:16*

Isaac's Life

- Isaac deceives Abimelech - **Gen 26**
(Like Abraham - **Genesis 20**)
- But he stays in the land as told by YHWH. Promise repeated
Genesis 26:2-6
- Remains in the land and is very prosperous - **Gen. 26:12ff**
Enviied by Philistines - **Gen. 26:14ff**
Isaac willingly moves several times.
See **Genesis 26:24-25**

Isaac's Life

- Esau takes Canaanite wives- **Gen 26:34-35**
 - a grief to Isaac and Rebekah
(cf. **2 Corinthians 6:14**)
- Jacob and Rebekah deceive Isaac - **Genesis 27**
 - Jacob takes the blessing
 - Recall - 1) **Gen. 25:23** told the older would serve the younger.
 - 2) Esau profanely sold his birthright (related to the blessing - **Gen. 25:29-34**)
 - See ***Hebrews 11:20, Gen. 27:38-40** - Esau is given a lesser blessing

Isaac's Life

- Esau is bitter and determines to kill Jacob after Isaac passed - **Gen 27:41ff**
- Jacob is sent away to Laban where he will marry and serve for 20 years
- Silence about Isaac until his death - **Gen. 35:27-29**, at 180 years of age
 - Buried by Jacob and Esau (reconciled) at the Cave of Machpelah - **Genesis 49:29-31**

Lessons from Isaac's life

- **Children learn from their parents**
Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4,
Psalm 127:3-5 - Parents can direct them in the way they should go!
- Note: Your most effective teaching tool is your example!
- We see problems in Isaac's household because of poor examples - favoritism, deceit, etc. (It will be passed down)

Lessons from Isaac's life

- **The dangers of favoritism**
Acts 10:34-35, Romans 2:11 - God shows not favoritism
- Neither should we - James 2:1-9
- How much did favoritism factor into Isaac's family problems?
- **Colossians 3:21** - fathers, do not provoke, leading to discouragement

Lessons from Isaac's life

- **God deals with imperfect people**
- Isaac had his faults. Genesis esp. points such things out!
- This ought to give us hope - **Romans 3:23, 5:8, etc.**

Lessons from Isaac's life

- Recorded wrongs does not imply approval
- Jacob and Rebekah lied to accomplish God's will. Was that deceit acceptable?
NO!!! Ephesians 4:25, Revelation 21:8, etc.

Lessons from Isaac's life

- **Actions have consequences**
- Esau's profane attitude cost him his birthright and blessing
- While it was in God's plan, that did NOT relieve Esau of complicity
- Jacob's deceit - he had to leave to save his life

Lessons from Isaac's life

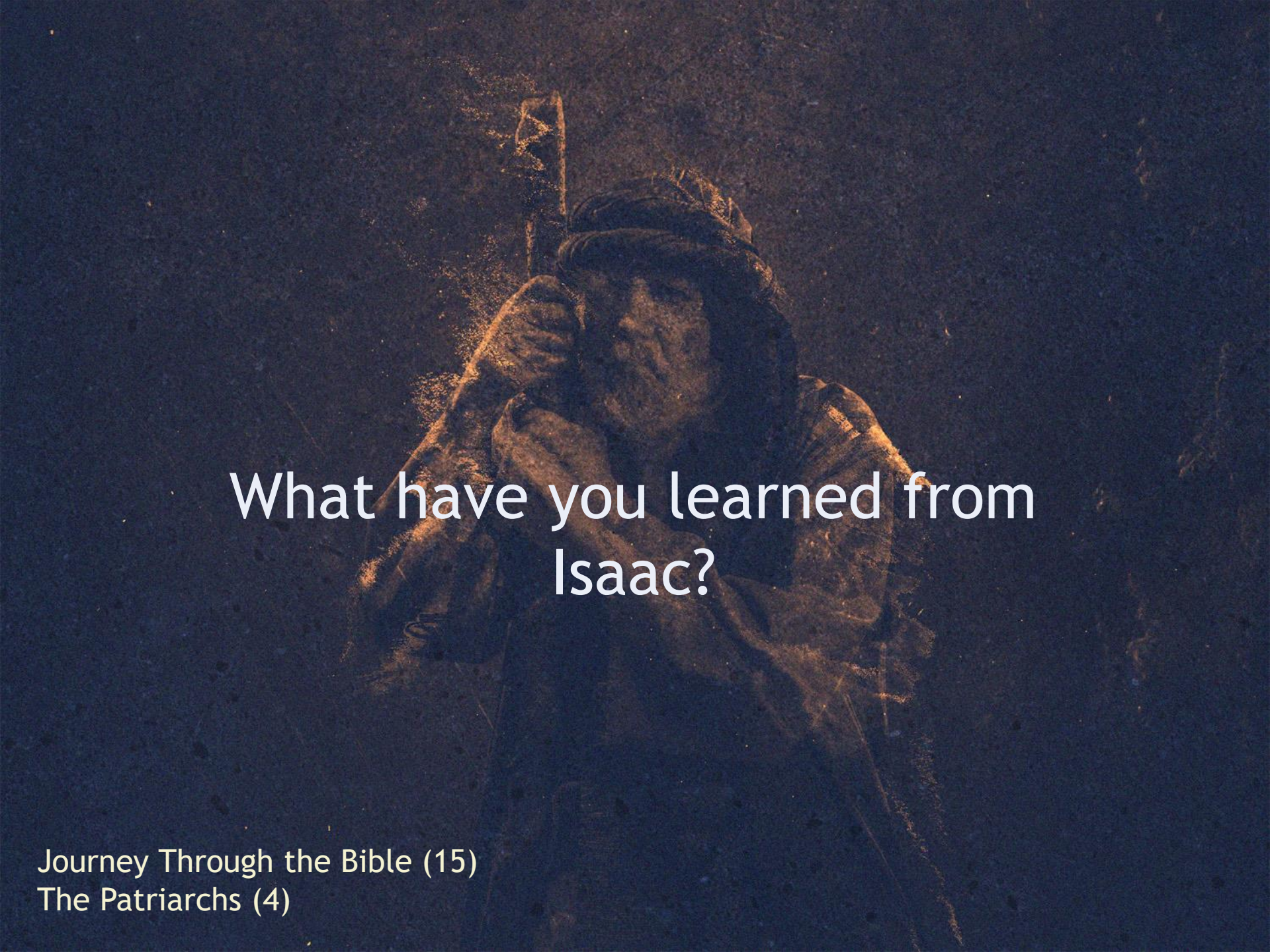
- **Be careful who you marry!**
- Abraham was very concerned about Isaac's wife.
Cf. Solomon, Ahab, Esau
- Again, **2 Corinthians 6:14** - if you marry an unbeliever, you **WILL** have problems with your spiritual "father in law"!
- **1 Peter 3:7** - heirs together
Proverbs 18:22, 19:24

Lessons from Isaac's life

- You can choose to be a peacemaker
- Isaac did not go looking for trouble!
When needed, he would yield, even though he was wronged
- **Matthew 5:9** - blessed are the peacemakers
Hebrews 12:14 - pursue peace with all...
Romans 12:18 - live peaceably with all men

Lessons from Isaac's life

- The importance of trusting and submitting to God's will
- Isaac obeyed YHWH. He was a man of great faith! He trusted God and approached God with requests
He did not leave Canaan because he was told not to do so
Hebrews 11:20 - he did not waver with his blessings.
Proverbs 3:4-5 - lean not on your own understanding



What have you learned from
Isaac?

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Let us pray!