

GOD is greater than > imperfections

Genesis 25:19-34

❖ God is greater than the imperfections of my life that I cannot completely control.

- My physical and emotional limitations. Genesis 25:19-21, 26
Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD answered him.
- My family struggles. Genesis 25:22, 23
But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is so, why then am I this way?"
Jacob =

❖ God is greater than the imperfections of my life from my sinful disobedience.

- When I selfishly gain from manipulation and extortion of another. Genesis 25:29-31
- When I sinfully pursue my own needs with no regard for others and consequences. Genesis 25:32-34
Esau despised his birthright
Despise =

❖ How God is greater than our imperfections

- _____ for God to reveal His greatness for your life. Genesis 25:21, 22; Psalm 116:1-9
- _____ and claim God's promises. Deuteronomy 7:6-11
- _____ in God to sovereignly over rule my culture, customs and position in life to accomplish His will. Malachi 1:1-5; Romans 9:10-16; Isaiah 55:8, 9; I Corinthians 1:26-31

Digging Deeper

Pretend you are looking to hire somebody for one of the most important jobs in the world. You received many resumes and finally choose one person for that job. After a background check, you discover the following characteristics in this person's life. Do you still hire that person?

- *He grew up in a dysfunctional home where he did not experience the love of his father. In fact, his father preferred his brother.*
- *He was guilty of extortion to selfishly get his own way.*
- *He lived much of his life estranged from his family.*
- *He deceived and lied to his own father to selfishly gain his blessing.*
- *He married into a family with a deceptive and cruel father-in-law.*
- *He was tricked into marrying the wrong woman and did not discover this problem until the next morning after their marriage was consummated.*
- *His wife could not get pregnant so he used their maid to bear a child.*
- *His sons massacred the men of a city because one man raped their sister.*

Do you have any of these traits in your life or family? Do you feel disqualified before God, or insignificant, without worth or value for Him because of them?

In our new series on Jacob, you will learn how amazing our Lord is because He is greater than all and accomplishes in and through us His greater purposes.

Jacob had many weaknesses and strengths. Read Malachi 1:1-5 and Romans 9:10-16. With all of his flaws, why did God choose him to be the founding name of His new nation, Israel? What hope does that give you, knowing all the weakness and failings in your own life?

Remind yourself of the greatness of God's sovereign rule over your life and this world. What do the following passages teach you?

Genesis 50:20

I Chronicles 29:12-16

II Chronicles 1:12

Deuteronomy 29:5

II Samuel 7:8, 9

Joshua 1:8, 9

II Chronicles 31:10

Ezra 8:22

Job 5:6-11

Isaiah 45:5, 6

Psalms 23; 32:12-15; 34:7-9; 37:3, 19, 22, 25, 34; 40:5; 65:9-13; 68:6-10; 100:3-5; 104:10-30; 107:1-9; 115:3; 116:1-9; 118:5, 6; 135:5, 6

Jeremiah 27:5, 6

Ezekiel 17:24

Daniel 2:20, 21, 47

