

It's Time to Wear the Pants! **Genesis 27:25-35; 32:22-30; 49:28**

I. A Blessing Desired

Isaac said, “I am now an old man and don’t know the day of my death.”³ Now then, get your weapons—your quiver and bow—and go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me.⁴ Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing before I die.”

Genesis 27:2-4 (NIV)

- Whether we admit it or not, we all desire to be blessed by our parents and even the older generation.

II. A Blessing Deceived

Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Genesis 25:28

Isaac trembled violently and said, “Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him—and indeed he will be blessed!”

When Esau heard his father’s words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me—me too, my father!”

But he said, “Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing.”

Genesis 27:33-35

- If we don’t receive the kind of blessing from our father we think we need, we often try to fill that **void** no matter what the cost.

III. A Blessing Delivered

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."

Genesis 32:24-28

"Jacob is given a blessing and Jacob is given a wound. Or maybe his wound is his blessing. Maybe you will bless more people with your limp than with all your strength. Maybe blessed are those who limp, for they will walk with God."

John Ortberg, author of *The Me I Want to Be*

- The joy of receiving God's blessing (healing/wholeness/freedom/salvation) through Christ is **not** found in our ability to run ahead of others, but to keep in step with Him.

IV. A Blessing Decreed

All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, giving each the blessing appropriate to him.

Genesis 49:28

- Give them a "ribbon of hope": a word of affirmation, a hug, some extra time. Tell them you love them, they are good, and that you know they will succeed as they follow Him.