

Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives Rediscovering Some Old Testament Characters

Esau: The Son Who Couldn't Win

GENESIS 25:20–34; 26:34–35; 27:5–46; 28:1–9; ROMANS 15:4



The Heart of the Matter

Tucked away in numerous folds of the Old Testament are stories that have held the attention of Bible readers for centuries. Some intrigue us, and others encourage us. There are stories of heroism and incredible accomplishments along with stories of disappointment, sadness, and tragedy. If ever a book contained a human-interest emphasis, it's the Bible. This series uncovers some of those stories, including this one about a young man who seemed born to lose. Though a twin, he was quite the opposite of his younger brother and ultimately became the heartache of the family. Ripped off by his brother and rejected by his family, he couldn't win, no matter how hard he tried. As we shall soon discover, the Bible pulls no punches. And you may find several places in this story where you can identify with "the son who couldn't win."



Discovering the Way

1. Some Thoughts about a Story (Romans 15:4)

Study the components of a good story and what makes the story of Esau so interesting.

2. Some Observations of a Rejected Son (Genesis 25:20–34; 26:34–35; 27:5–28:9)

Learn about Esau's birthright and perspective, his struggles and marriages, and his relationships and reactions.

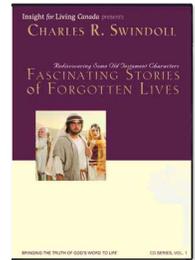


Starting Your Journey

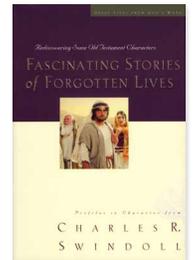
Keep in mind these lessons from a wounded struggler: instant gratification is a dangerous basis for making decisions; parental favoritism has a damaging effect on the whole family; unconditional acceptance is a longing in every child's heart.



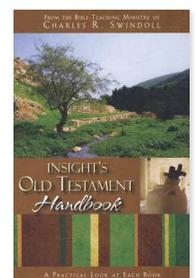
Tools for Digging Deeper



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