

Genesis 25:27-34 – Scene 2: Esau Sells His Birthright.		
27	And the boys <b>grew up</b> . Now Esau <b>became</b> a <b>skillful hunter</b> , a man of the <b>field</b> , but Jacob was a peaceful man, <b>dwelling</b> in tents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Esau: a knowing hunter.</li> <li>▪ Contrast?</li> </ul>
28	Isaac <b>loved</b> Esau because he had a taste for <b>game</b> , but Rebekah <b>loved</b> Jacob.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NET: taste for game = “hunting in his mouth”</li> <li>▪ Tension!</li> </ul>
29	And Jacob <b>was stewing</b> some <b>stew</b> , and Esau <b>came in</b> from the <b>field</b> . Now he [ <i>was</i> ] <b>faint</b> [ <i>with hunger</i> ].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NET: “Cooking” sounds like “hunting.” The hunter becomes the hunted in this story.</li> </ul>
30a	And Esau <b>said</b> to Jacob, “ <b>Let me gulp down</b> some of that red stuff. <b>Now!</b> For I [ <i>am</i> ] <b>faint</b> [ <i>with hunger</i> ]!”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Command</li> <li>▪ NET: Moses may be comparing Esau to a hungry animal with the word, “gulp down.”</li> <li>▪ His descendants lived in Edom, known for reddish hills.</li> </ul>
30b	(Therefore his name <b>was called</b> Edom.)	
31	Jacob <b>said</b> , “ <b>Sell</b> me your <b>birthright</b> to me <b>today</b> .”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Did Jacob trick Esau?</li> <li>▪ Command</li> </ul>
32	Esau <b>said</b> , “ <b>Look!</b> I <b>am about to die</b> . What use is a <b>birthright</b> to me?”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ True?</li> </ul>
33a	Jacob <b>said</b> , “ <b>Swear</b> to me <b>today</b> .”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Command</li> </ul>
33b	So he <b>swore</b> to him and <b>sold</b> his <b>birthright</b> to Jacob.	
34a	Then Jacob <b>gave</b> Esau <b>bread</b> and lentil <b>stew</b> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NET: to “despise” means to treat something as worthless or with contempt.</li> <li>▪ Staccato</li> <li>▪ Bread (3:19)</li> </ul>
34b	And <b>he ate</b> and <b>drank</b> and <b>rose</b> and <b>went out</b> .	
34c	Thus Esau despised his birthright.	

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<b>Literature Type:</b> ➤ Story	▪
<b>Main Character:</b> ➤ Esau: The narrator starts with Esau (25:27a) and ends with Esau (25:35b & c).	▪
<b>Other Characters:</b> ➤ Jacob: He has two lines: (1) Sell me your birthright today; (2) Swear it today.	▪
<b>Story Obstacles</b> ( <i>new tensions</i> ): (1) Scene #2, Obstacle #1: ➤ Isaac loved Esau, but Rabekah loved Jacob. ➤ Isaac loved Esau, because he had a taste for wild game. ➤ Why did Rabekah love Jacob? (2) Scene #2, Obstacle #2: ➤ Esau was hungry after hunting and demanded some of Jacob's red stuff. ➤ Jacob preys on Esau, offering to swap stew for Esau's double-inheritance. ➤ How will Esau respond to such a shocking offer? (3) Scene #2, Obstacle #3: ➤ Esau treated his inheritance as worthless and agreed to sell it for a bowl of soup. ➤ Would Esau regret his decision? (4) Scene #2, Obstacle #4: ➤ Esau ate, drank, rose, and left. He showed no remorse.	▪
<b>Tension Direction:</b> (1) Scene #2, Obstacle #1: ➤ <b>Tension simmers:</b> The only hint so far is because of YHWH's word. (See Genesis 25:23.) (2) Scene #2, Obstacle #2: ➤ <b>Tension Increases:</b> We read with shock and disgust that Esau agrees to the swap. (3) Scene #2, Obstacle #3: ➤ <b>Tension Increases:</b> We read with shock and disgust that Esau considered his birthright useless because he was "starving to death." (4) Scene #2, Obstacle #4: ➤ <b>Tension resolved:</b> The narrator summarizes Esau's evil character: Esau despised his birthright.	▪

# Genesis (HDRT)

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<p>(5) Scene #1, Obstacle #3: <i>How will the older serving the younger play out?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Tension simmers:</b> Will Esau seek revenge one day?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Theme</b> <i>(to original audience):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Esau treated his double-inheritance as worthless,           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ willingly traded it for a bowl of bean soup,</li> <li>▪ and showed no remorse.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	▪
<p><b>Theology</b> <i>(for all audiences):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ God expects us to cherish his good gifts.</li> <li>➤ We are co-heirs with God’s son, Jesus Christ (Romans 8:16-17).</li> <li>➤ If we hold Jesus in contempt and fall away from the faith           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ after tasting the Word of God,</li> <li>▪ and partaking of the Holy Spirit,</li> <li>▪ it is impossible to repent (Hebrews 6:4-6).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	▪ <i>This is not a complete list.</i>
<p><b>Big Idea</b> <i>(for our audience):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Value your purity <i>(for a youth group)</i>.</li> <li>➤ Cling to your inheritance when suffering (Romans 8:16-17) <i>(for families experiencing great difficulties)</i>.</li> <li>➤ Don’t walk away from Jesus (Hebrews 6:4-6) <i>(for new college students)</i>.</li> </ul>	▪ <i>These are just examples.</i>