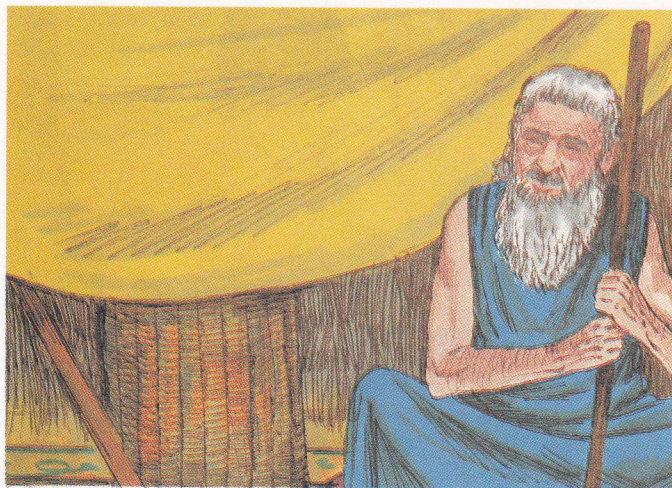
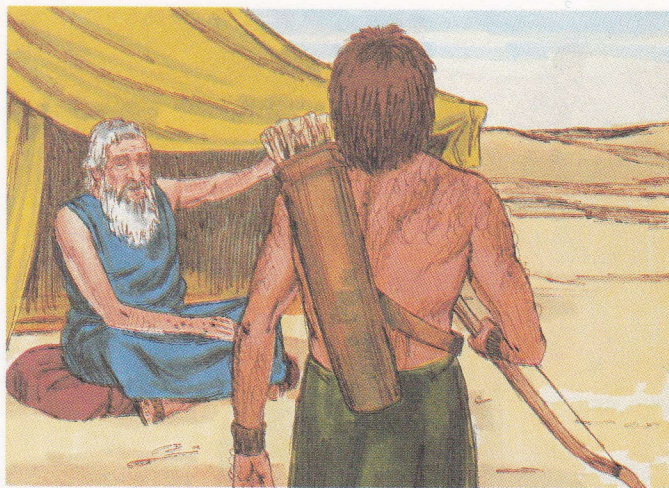


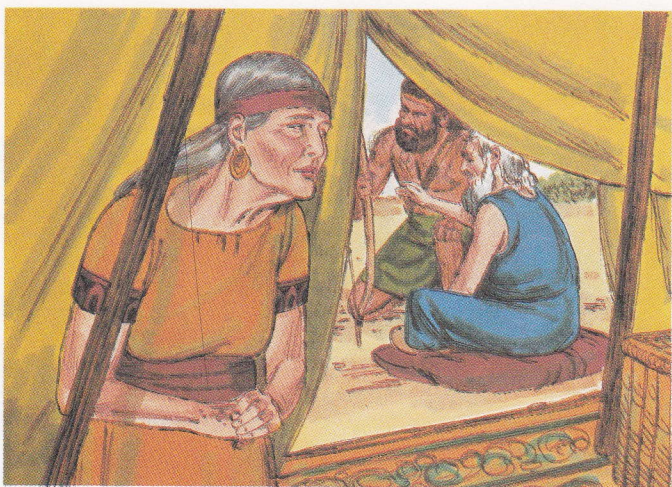
Jacob Tricks His Brother



1 Isaac was now very old and blind. He decided that before he died he would give his final blessing to his firstborn son Esau.



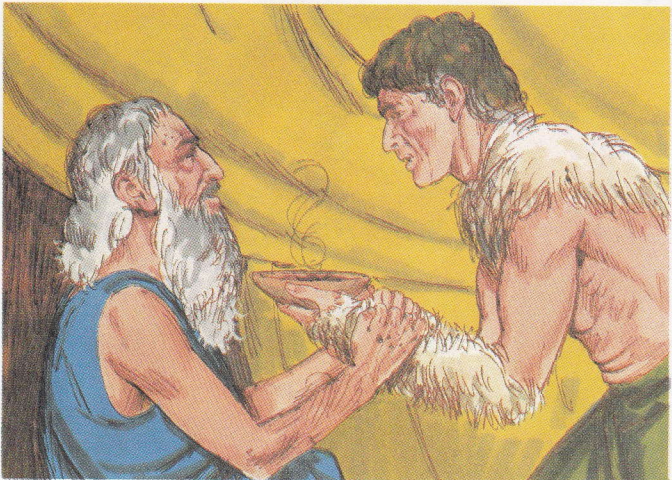
2 Isaac asked Esau to kill some game so that he could prepare his father's favorite food. After Isaac ate the meal, he would give his final blessing.



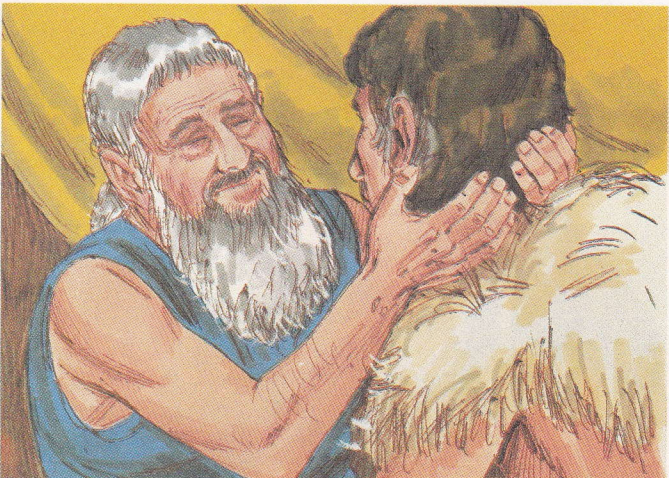
3 Rebekah overheard this plan and told Jacob about it. Because Jacob was her favorite son, she wanted him to get the blessing. She ordered Jacob to bring her two goats.



4 Rebekah cooked the goat meat the way Isaac liked it and dressed Jacob in Esau's clothes. Esau was very hairy, so she tied goat skins on Jacob's arms and neck to fool Isaac in case he touched him.



5 When Jacob brought the meat to his father, Isaac was suspicious at first because the voice was not like Esau's. But when he touched the hairy skin, he thought it must be Esau after all.



6 After he ate the food Jacob brought, he had his son come close so that he could kiss him. Then he could smell Esau's clothes which Jacob wore.



7 So he blessed Jacob, thinking he was Esau. He prayed that God would make him wealthy and a powerful ruler over his brother and his relatives.



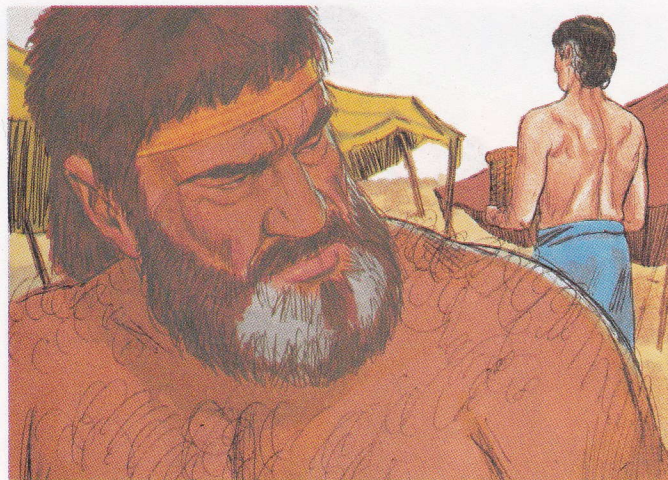
8 After Jacob left, Esau returned. When he asked his father for the blessing, Isaac realized he had blessed someone else. He began to tremble and shake.



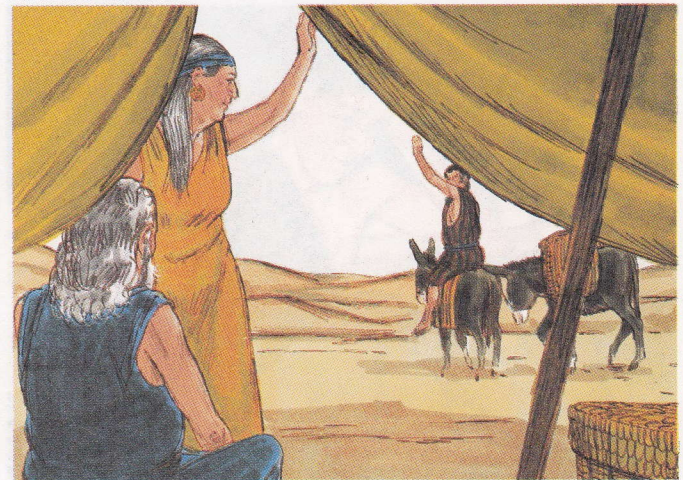
9 Esau cried out bitterly and loudly and asked Isaac to bless him, too. But Isaac said, "Your brother has deceived me and taken away your blessing."



10 "There is nothing I can do for you, Son," Isaac said sadly. Isaac told Esau that Esau would be Jacob's slave for a time but that some day he would get free of Jacob's control.



11 After that, Esau hated Jacob. "This is the second time Jacob has cheated me. He took away my rights as firstborn son and now my blessing," Esau thought. He decided to kill Jacob.



12 But Rebekah found out what Esau planned to do. She asked Isaac to send Jacob to her brother Laban's home to find a wife, thinking Jacob could return home when Esau got over his anger.