ISAAC'S AND REBEKAH'S FAMILY

Genesis 25:19-34   Lesson 12a

Key Verse: 25:23

(Genesis 25:1-18 records Abraham's life after the death of Sarah, and

Abraham's death. The account of Ishmael's family shows God's faithfulness.

Abraham was careful to protect Isaac's inheritance from the claims of other children.

This genealogy is one of the "dividers" in Genesis. [see introduction.)

"The Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within

you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will

serve the younger.'"

*A FAMILY THAT PRAYS (19-23)

1.What was the problem in Isaac's family? What did Isaac do about it? How was his

way of dealing with this problem different from the way his father Abraham had dealt

with a similar problem? What can we learn from Isaac?

2.When and how did God answer Isaac's prayer? How long did they wait? (26) What might

they have learned through waiting?

3.What was the discomfort Rebekah experienced during her pregnancy? Why was she

concerned? What did she do? What does this show about her faith?

4.What was God's revelation to her when she came to him with her problem?

What did this revelation mean practically to Jacob and Esau?

5.What can you learn from the prayer lives of Isaac and Rebekah?

*JACOB AND ESAU (24-34)

6.How were Jacob and Esau different from one another at birth? What

suggestions about their future characters are found in the account of

their birth? (24-26)

7.How were they different as they grew up? Why did Isaac and Rebekah differ

in their view of the boys?

8.How did Esau come to sell his birthright to Jacob? What is the birthright? Why

did Jacob want it? What does this show about him?

9.Why did Esau sell the birthright? Why does Genesis say that Esau despised his

birthright? what does this show about him? (See Heb 12:16. Compare Ge 27:36;28:6-9)

10.In what respect is Jacob more fitted to be the covenant son than Esau?

What can you learn from this chapter about God's ways of working?