

Rebecca and Jacob, Genesis 27:5-24

Rebekah had been listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau had gone out into the open to hunt game to bring home,

Rebekah said to her son Jacob, “I overheard your father speaking to your brother Esau, saying,

‘Bring me some game and prepare a dish for me to eat, that I may bless you, with the LORD’s approval, before I die.’

Now, my son, listen carefully as I instruct you.

Go to the flock and fetch me two choice kids, and I will make of them a dish for your father, such as he likes.

Then take it to your father to eat, in order that he may bless you before he dies.”

Jacob answered his mother Rebekah, “But my brother Esau is a hairy man and I am smooth-skinned.

If my father touches me, I shall appear to him as a trickster and bring upon myself a curse, not a blessing.”

But his mother said to him, “Your curse, my son, be upon me! Just do as I say and go fetch them for me.”

He got them and brought them to his mother, and his mother prepared a dish such as his father liked.

Rebekah then took the best clothes of her older son Esau, which were there in the house, and had her younger son Jacob put them on;

and she covered his hands and the hairless part of his neck with the skins of the kids.

Then she put in the hands of her son Jacob the dish and the bread that she had prepared.

He went to his father and said, “Father.” And he said, “Yes, which of my sons are you?”

ויאמר יעקב אל־אביו אנכי עשׂו בכרך עשׂיתי ככאשר דברת אלי קום־גא שׁבה ואכלה מצילי בעבור: Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau, your first-born; I have done as you told me. Pray sit up and eat of my game, that you may give me your innermost blessing.”

Isaac said to his son, “How did you succeed so quickly, my son?” And he said, “Because the LORD your God granted me good fortune.”

Isaac said to Jacob, “Come closer that I may feel you, my son—whether you are really my son Esau or not.”

So Jacob drew close to his father Isaac, who felt him and wondered. “The voice is the voice of Jacob, yet the hands are the hands of Esau.”

He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; and so he blessed him.

He asked, “Are you really my son Esau?” And when he said, “I am,”