Why Esau Was Godless

Tony Mauck · Hebrews 12:15–17

INTRODUCTION

- We're going to look at what I call the Esau puzzle.
- This statement in Romans chapter 9 puzzles many Bible students.

1 Jacob I Love, but Esau I Hated

Romans 9:13; Malachi 1:2–3; Genesis 25:23

- The first observation that I would make about that statement is that it's more than just about two individuals, but has to go to their descendants as well.
- Paul is talking more about a choice that God made, more so than his affection for any particular individual.
- It is certainly not God's desire that Esau be lost, or any of his descendants for that matter.
- He knows which one will have a faith more like grandfather Abraham and Father Isaac, and thus the selection is made from the very beginning.

2 Come Short of the Grace of God

Hebrews 12:15–17

- See to it that none of you come short of the grace of God.
- He says, you can come short of God's full intentions for that grace in your life.
- Bitterness in our hearts in verse 15 that rises up within us, causing trouble and causes us to be defiled.
- That there be no immoral or godless person like Esau who sold his birthright for a single meal.

3 Why Was Esau Godless?

Genesis 25:24–34

- This has to do with God's intentions for the descendants of Abraham.
- Esau believed in God, but he despised the things of God.
- Esau valued his desires above the blessings and promises of God.
- What's set opposite of godliness is not atheism. What set opposite of godliness is worldliness.
- The idea of being godly is to be God focused.

4 We Generally Do What We Want to Do

- The point of godliness is we need to be daily contemplating the presence and will of God.
- All that Esau cared about in that moment was his hunger.
- Esau shows us this important danger, and that is we generally do what we want to do.

- If we're not careful, we will exalt what we want to do above what we need to do and what others need us to do.
- When we get upset for whatever reason, we often tend to justify our actions based on the actions of other people.

5 You Control You

- Jacob played a role in all of this, but the bottom line is that Esau did not value the things of God like he should.
- So often when people want to be worldly, when they want to set aside the will of God for their lives, they start pointing fingers.
- Sometimes your spouse will indeed disappoint you and act less than what they should be. But that doesn't give me an excuse.
- You're the problem, and you're the solution.
- Your role, the role that you play among the Lord's people in the local church, is about your determination. It's about what you choose to be and do.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you have passions and desires that are not consistent with the will of God? We need to nail them to the cross.

MY NOTES