

A black and white image of a celestial scene. In the upper center, a large, cratered moon is visible. Below it, a planet with a dark, textured surface and a bright horizon line is shown. The background is a dark, starry space. The text "THE BOOK OF GENESIS" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The word "GENESIS" is significantly larger than "THE BOOK OF".

THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

GENESIS 25:19-34

The book of Genesis is a record of ten successive generations, or ***toledoths*** (Heb.), “human family lines.”

- Those generations were often cumulative messes that cycled through obedience and disobedience, followed by repentance, and then back to obedience.
- We, as Christians, must remember that what we teach, how we live, and what we give to our families often stays with them for a lifetime!
- Are we living examples of obedience to His Word?

THE LORD LOVES FAMILY v. 19-21

Isaac was forty years old when God selected Rebekah to be his wife and we can be sure that they were both devoted to the Lord and to each other. **Gen. 24, 25:20**

- God desires for our homes to be places of prayer for the supply of our needs and His blessings, even though He has already promised to send them. **Matt. 6:11, 7:11; Phil. 4:19; 2 Pet. 1:4**
- Children are a blessing from God. **Ps. 127:3-5**
- But sometimes kids struggle and give us heartache.

THE WRESTLERS: JACOB & ESAU

The twins in Rebekah's womb were of two utterly different and antagonistic temperaments.

- Same mom, same dad, same home, but they could not be more different. The nations which they would establish would inherit these tendencies.
- The struggle which had begun in her womb would continue throughout their lives and throughout the histories of their respective nations.
- A preview of the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Jordan and Israel

THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF WAITING

- The entire book of Genesis emphasizes the sovereignty of God and the wisdom of His “*delays.*” And His delays are not always denials.
- Our times are in His hands and His timing is never wrong. **Ps. 31:15-16**
- It may be hard, but waiting, prayer, and obtaining the blessings of the Lord all go hand-in-hand!
- Faithful praying is often met with delayed answers. **Disappointment is turned into delight. Isa. 30:18**

THE PROPHECY OF MIDDLE EAST STRIFE AND DIVISION v. 22-23

- In salvation history, the conception and birth of children is a divinely-ordained event that has significant consequences—***from Isaac to Jesus!***
- Each child would produce a nation and these two nations, Esau/Edom (modern-day ***Jordan***) and Jacob (***Israel***), would compete. The younger would rule the older.
- Just as God had chosen ***Isaac*** (the second-born) and not ***Ishmael*** (the firstborn), so He chose ***Jacob*** (the second-born), and not ***Esau*** (the firstborn). **Rom 9:10-12**

A HOUSE DIVIDED CANNOT STAND v. 24-34

- Esau was a robust outdoorsman who was a successful hunter, while Jacob was a “homebody” or computer geek.
- Dad, Isaac, a quiet man, fulfilled his dreams vicariously in Esau, the courageous man, and apparently ignored the fact that his elder son was also a worldly, carnal man.
- Be careful in your home—carnality breeds carnality.

1 Pet. 1:13-16

Be careful what you teach your children—like father, like son! Christ or carnality, it begins in our homes.