

# The Great Divide Foretold

## Israeli/Jewish and Arab/Muslim Conflict

### Part 8

#### **Genesis 25:20-24 AMPC**

*20 Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Padan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean.*

*21 And Isaac prayed much to the Lord for his wife because she was unable to bear children; and the Lord granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife became pregnant.*

*22 **[Two] children struggled together within her; and she said, If it is so [that the Lord has heard our prayer], why am I like this? And she went to inquire of the Lord.***

*23 **The Lord said to her, [The founders of] two nations are in your womb, and the separation of two peoples has begun in your body; the one people shall be stronger than the other, and the elder shall serve the younger.***

*24 When her days to be delivered were fulfilled, **behold, there were twins in her womb.***

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We have 2 people groups from part 7 in Genesis 25 forming in Rebekah., the Israelites and the Edomites. The Arab people would come from Esau, Isaac's son and the religion of Islam would come for Ishmael, Abrahams son.

Remember, there was a promise from God to Abraham and all his descendants to be blessed if they were to keep the same covenant that Abraham kept with God. The blessing was not a descendant only but if you kept the covenant or habitually kept.

**Genesis 17:1-2, 7 AMPC**

*1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, I am the Almighty God; walk **and live habitually before Me** and be perfect (blameless, wholehearted, complete).*

*2 And I will make My covenant (solemn pledge) between Me and you and will multiply you exceedingly.*

*7 And **I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants** after you throughout their generations for an everlasting, solemn pledge, **to be a God to you** and to your posterity after you.*

One of the blessings or promises in the Abrahamic Covenant included a promise of blessing and redemption.

**Genesis 12:3 AMPC**

*3 And I will bless those who bless you [who confer prosperity or happiness upon you] and curse him who curses or uses insolent language toward you; in you will all the families and kindred of the earth be blessed [and by you they will bless themselves].*

All the earth would be blessed through Abraham. This promise finds its fulfillment in the New Covenant. (Jeremiah 31:31–34; cf. Luke 22:20),

**Jeremiah 31:31-34 AMPC**

*31 **Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,*

*32 **Not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers** in the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, **My covenant which they broke**, although I was their Husband, says the Lord.*

33 But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, says the Lord, I will put My law within them, and on their hearts will I write it; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

34 And they will no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for they will all know Me [recognize, understand, and be acquainted with Me], from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will [seriously] remember their sin no more.

### Luke 22:20 AMPC

20 And in like manner, He took the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament or covenant [ratified] in My blood, which is shed (poured out) for you.

This was ratified by Jesus Christ, the son of Abraham and Redeemer who will one day “restore everything” (Acts 3:21).

### Acts 3 AMPC

1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour (three o'clock in the afternoon),

2 [When] a certain man crippled from his birth was being carried along, who was laid each day at that gate of the temple [which is] called Beautiful, so that he might beg for charitable gifts from those who entered the temple.

3 So when he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them to give him a gift.

4 And Peter directed his gaze intently at him, and so did John, and said, Look at us!

5 And [the man] paid attention to them, expecting that he was going to get something from them.

6 But Peter said, Silver and gold (money) I do not have; but what I do have, that I give to you: in [the [a]use of] the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!

7 Then he took hold of the man's right hand with a firm grip and raised him up. And at once his feet and ankle bones became strong and steady,

8 And leaping forth he stood and [b]egan to walk, and he went into the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking about and praising God,

10 And they recognized him as the man who usually sat [begging] for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement (bewilderment, consternation) over what had occurred to him. 11 Now while he [still] firmly clung to Peter and John, all the people in utmost amazement ran together and crowded around them in the covered porch (walk) called Solomon's.

12 And Peter, seeing it, answered the people, You men of Israel, why are you so surprised and wondering at this? Why do you keep staring at us, as though by our [own individual] power or [active] piety we had made this man [able] to walk?

13 The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our forefathers, has glorified His Servant and [c]Son Jesus [doing Him this honor], Whom you indeed delivered up and denied and rejected and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to let Him go.

14 But you denied and rejected and disowned the Pure and Holy, the Just and Blameless One, and demanded [the pardon of] a murderer to be granted to you.

15 But you killed the very Source (the Author) of life, Whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

16 And His name, through and by faith in His name, has made this man whom you see and recognize well and strong. [Yes] the faith which is through and by Him [Jesus] has given the man this perfect soundness [of body] before all of you.

17 And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance [not aware of what you were doing], as did your rulers also.

18 Thus has God fulfilled what He foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ (the Messiah) should undergo ill treatment and be afflicted and suffer.

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19 So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return [to God], that your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of [d]reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord;  
20 And that He may send [to you] the Christ (the Messiah), Who before was designated and appointed for you—even Jesus,  
21 Whom heaven must receive [and retain] until the time for the complete restoration of all that God spoke by the mouth of all His holy prophets for ages past [from the most ancient time in the memory of man].  
22 Thus Moses said to the forefathers, The Lord God will raise up for you a Prophet from among your brethren as [He raised up] me; Him you shall listen to and understand by hearing and heed in all things whatever He tells you.

**Note:** Peter is relaying a quote from Moses recorded in Deuteronomy...

Deuteronomy 18:15 the Lord your God will raise up for you [a]a prophet (Prophet) from the midst of your brethren like me [Moses]; to him you shall listen.

Jesus claimed this direct responsibility as well...

**John 12:49 AMPC**

49 This is because I have never spoken on My own authority or of My own accord or as self-appointed, but the Father Who sent Me has Himself given Me orders [concerning] what to say and what to tell.

When He is rejected in Nazareth, He identifies Himself with the prophets

**Luke 4:24 AMPC**

24 Then He said, Solemnly I say to you, no prophet is acceptable and welcome in his [own] town (country).

## Back to Acts chapter 3...

*23 And it shall be that every soul that does not listen to and understand by hearing and heed that Prophet shall be utterly [e]xterminated from among the people.*

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*24 Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel and those who came afterwards, as many as have spoken, also promised and foretold and proclaimed these days.*

*25 You are the descendants (sons) of the prophets and the heirs of the covenant which God made and gave to your forefathers, saying to Abraham, And in your Seed (Heir) shall all the families of the earth be blessed and benefited.*

*26 It was to you first that God sent His Servant and Son Jesus, when He raised Him up [[f]provided and gave Him for us], to bless you in turning every one of you from your wickedness and evil ways.*

Five times in Genesis 12, as God is giving the Abrahamic Covenant, He says, “I will.” Clearly, God takes the onus of keeping the covenant upon Himself. The covenant is unconditional. One day, Israel will repent, be forgiven, and be restored to God’s favor (Zechariah 12:10–14; Romans 11:25–27). One day, the nation of Israel will possess the entire territory promised to them. One day, the Messiah will return to set up His throne, and through His righteous rule the whole world will be blessed with an abundance of peace, pleasure, and prosperity.

## This is Paul speaking to the New Testament Church ...

### **Romans 11:1-5 AMPC**

*1 I ask then: Has God totally rejected and disowned His people? Of course not! **Why, I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin!***

2 No, God has not rejected and disowned His people [whose destiny] He had marked out and appointed and foreknown from the beginning. **Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?**

3 Lord, they have killed Your prophets; they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.

4 But what is God's reply to him? I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal!

5 **So too at the present time there is a remnant (a small believing minority), selected (chosen) by grace (by God's unmerited favor and graciousness).**

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### **Romans 11:11-25 AMPC**

11 So I ask, Have they stumbled so as to fall [to their utter spiritual ruin, irretrievably]? By no means! **But through their false step and transgression salvation [has come] to the Gentiles,** so as to arouse Israel [to see and feel what they forfeited] and so to make them jealous.

12 Now if their stumbling (their lapse, their transgression) has so enriched the world [at large], and if [Israel's] failure means such riches for the Gentiles, think what an enrichment and greater advantage will follow their full reinstatement!

13 **But now I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles,** I lay great stress on my ministry and magnify my office,

14 In the hope of making my fellow Jews jealous [in order to stir them up to imitate, copy, and appropriate], **and thus managing to save some of them.**

15 For if their rejection and exclusion from the benefits of salvation were [overruled] for the reconciliation of a world to God, what will their acceptance and admission mean? [It will be nothing short of] life from the dead!

16 Now if the first handful of dough offered as the firstfruits [Abraham and the patriarchs] is consecrated (holy), so is the whole mass [the nation of Israel]; and if the root [Abraham] is consecrated (holy), so are the branches.

17 But if some of the branches were broken off, while you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among them to share the richness [of the root and sap] of the olive tree,

18 Do not boast over the branches and pride yourself at their expense. If you do boast and feel superior, remember it is not you that support the root, but the root [that supports] you.

19 You will say then, Branches were broken (pruned) off so that I might be grafted in!

20 That is true. But they were broken (pruned) off because of their unbelief (their lack of real faith), and you are established through faith [because you do believe]. So do not become proud and conceited, but rather stand in awe and be reverently afraid.

21 For if God did not spare the natural branches [because of unbelief], neither will He spare you [if you are guilty of the same offense].

22 Then note and appreciate the gracious kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's gracious kindness to you—provided you continue in His grace and abide in His kindness; otherwise you too will be cut off (pruned away).

23 And even those others [the fallen branches, Jews], if they do not persist in [clinging to] their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.

24 For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and against nature grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much easier will it be to graft these natural [branches] back on [the original parent stock of] their own olive tree.



25 Lest you be self-opinionated (wise in your own conceits), I do not want you to miss this hidden truth and mystery, brethren: a hardening (insensibility) has [temporarily] befallen a part of Israel [to last] until the [c]full number of the ingathering of the Gentiles has come in,

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Let's pick the story back up in Genesis 26...

Genesis 26:1-41 AMPC

1 And there was a famine in the land, other than the former famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines.

2 And the Lord appeared to him and said, Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I will tell you.

3 Dwell temporarily in this land, and I will be with you and will favor you with blessings; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.

4 And I will make your descendants to multiply as the stars of the heavens, and will give to your posterity all these lands (kingdoms); and by your Offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, or by Him bless themselves,

5 For Abraham listened to and obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commands, My statutes, and My laws.

6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar.

7 And the men of the place asked him about his wife, and he said, She is my sister; for he was afraid to say, She is my wife—[thinking], Lest the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah, because she is attractive and is beautiful to look upon.

8 When he had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw Isaac caressing Rebekah his wife.

9 And Abimelech called Isaac and said, See here, she is certainly your wife! How did you [dare] say to me, She is my sister? And Isaac said to him, Because I thought, Lest I die on account of her.

10 And Abimelech said, What is this you have done to us? One of the men might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt and sin upon us.

11 **Then Abimelech charged all his people, He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.**

12 Then Isaac sowed seed in that land and received in the same year a hundred times as much as he had planted, and the Lord favored him with blessings.

13 And the man became great and gained more and more until he became very wealthy and distinguished;

14 He owned flocks, herds, and a great supply of servants, and the Philistines envied him.

15 **Now all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had closed and filled with earth.**

16 **And Abimelech said to Isaac, Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we are.**

17 So Isaac went away from there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.

18 **And Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham;** and he gave them the names by which his father had called them.

19 Now Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of living [spring] water.

20 And the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, The water is ours. And he named the well Esek [contention] because they quarreled with him.

21 Then [his servants] dug another well, and they quarreled over that also; so he named it Sitnah [enmity].

22 And he moved away from there and dug another well, and for that one they did not quarrel. He named it Rehoboth [room], saying, For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

23 Now he went up from there to Beersheba.

24 And the Lord appeared to him the same night and said, I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will favor you with blessings and multiply your descendants for the sake of My servant Abraham.

25 And [Isaac] [a]built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord and pitched his tent there; and there Isaac's servants were digging a well.

26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzah, one of his friends, and Phicol, his army's commander.

27 And Isaac said to them, Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?

28 They said, We saw that the Lord was certainly with you; so we said, Let there be now an oath between us [carrying a curse with it to befall the one who breaks it], even between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you

29 That you will do us no harm, inasmuch as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed or favored of the Lord!

30 And he made them a [formal] dinner, and they ate and drank.

31 And they rose up early in the morning and took oaths [with a curse] with one another; and Isaac sent them on their way and they departed from him in peace.

32 That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well they had dug, saying, We have found water!

33 And he named [the well] Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beersheba [well of the oath] to this day.

*34 Now Esau was 40 years old when he took as wife Judith the daughter of Beerì the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.*

*35 And they made life bitter and a grief of mind and spirit for Isaac and Rebekah [their parents-in-law].*

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### **Genesis 27 AMPC**

*1 When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his elder son, and said to him, My son! And he answered him, Here I am.*

*2 He said, See here now; I am old, I do not know when I may die.*

*3 So now, I pray you, take your weapons, your [arrows in a] quiver and your bow, and go out into the open country and hunt game for me,*

*4 And prepare me appetizing meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat of it, [preparatory] to giving you my blessing [as my firstborn] before I die.*

*5 But Rebekah heard what Isaac said to Esau his son; and when Esau had gone to the open country to hunt for game that he might bring it,*

*6 Rebekah said to Jacob her younger son, See here, I heard your father say to Esau your brother,*

*7 Bring me game and make me appetizing meat, so that I may eat and declare my blessing upon you before the Lord before my death.*

*8 So now, my son, do exactly as I command you.*

*9 Go now to the flock, and from it bring me two good and suitable kids; and I will make them into appetizing meat for your father, such as he loves.*

*10 And you shall bring it to your father, that he may eat and declare his blessing upon you before his death.*

*11 But Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Listen, Esau my brother is a hairy man and I am a smooth man.*

*12 Suppose my father feels me; I will seem to him to be a cheat and an imposter, and I will bring [his] curse on me and not [his] blessing.*

*13 But his mother said to him, On me be your curse, my son; only obey my word and go, fetch them to me.*

*14 So [Jacob] went, got [the kids], and brought them to his mother; and his mother prepared appetizing meat with a delightful odor, such as his father loved.*

*15 Then Rebekah took her elder son Esau's best clothes which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son.*

*16 And she put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.*

*17 And she gave the savory meat and the bread which she had prepared into the hand of her son Jacob.*

*18 So he went to his father and said, My father. And he said, Here am I; who are you, my son?*

*19 And Jacob said to his father, I am Esau your firstborn; I have done what you told me to do. Now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may proceed to bless me.*

*20 And Isaac said to his son, How is it that you have found the game so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the Lord your God caused it to come to me.*

*21 But Isaac said to Jacob, Come close to me, I beg of you, that I may feel you, my son, and know whether you really are my son Esau or not.*

*22 So Jacob went near to Isaac, and his father felt him and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.*

*23 He could not identify him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him.*

*24 But he said, Are you really my son Esau? He answered, I am.*

*25 Then [Isaac] said, Bring it to me and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you. He brought it to him and he ate; and he brought him wine and he drank.*

*26 Then his father Isaac said, Come near and kiss me, my son.*

27 So he came near and kissed him; and [Isaac] smelled his clothing and blessed him and said, The scent of my son is as the odor of a field which the Lord has blessed.

28 And may God give you of the dew of the heavens and of the fatness of the earth and abundance of grain and [new] wine;

29 Let peoples serve you and nations bow down to you; be master over your brothers, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Let everyone be cursed who curses you and favored with blessings who blesses you.

30 As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob and Jacob was scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 Esau had also prepared savory food and brought it to his father and said to him, Let my father arise and eat of his son's game, that you may bless me.

32 And Isaac his father said to him, Who are you? And he replied, I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.

33 Then Isaac trembled and shook violently, and he said, Who? Where is he who has hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate of it all before you came and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.

34 When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with a great and bitter cry and said to his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father!

35 [Isaac] said, Your brother came with crafty cunning and treacherous deceit and has taken your blessing.

36 [Esau] replied, Is he not rightly named Jacob [the supplanter]? For he has supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright, and now he has taken away my blessing! Have you not still a blessing reserved for me?

37 And Isaac answered Esau, Behold, I have made [Jacob] your lord and master; I have given all his brethren to him for servants, and with corn and [new] wine have I sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?

38 Esau said to his father, Have you only one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father! And Esau lifted up [could not control] his voice and wept aloud.

39 Then Isaac his father answered, Your [blessing and] dwelling shall all come from the fruitfulness of the earth and from the dew of the heavens above;

40 By your sword you shall live and serve your brother. But [the time shall come] when you will grow restive and break loose, and you shall tear his yoke from off your neck.

41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him; and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are very near. When [he is gone] I will [a]kill my brother Jacob.

This began a feud that was to cost countless lives throughout the centuries. Esau (Edomites) had descendants, the Amalekites, which were the first enemies to obstruct the flight of Jacob's descendants from Egypt (Exod. 17:8);

The Edomites even refused to let their uncle Jacob's children pass through their land (Num. 20:17-20). Doeg, an Edomite, all but caused the death of Christ's chosen ancestor David (I Sam. 21, 22). Bloody battles were fought between the two nations in the centuries that followed.

It was Herod, of Esau's race (Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews 14:1, Section 3), who had the male infants of Bethlehem slain in an effort to destroy the Christ Child (Matt. 2:16).

#### Genesis 27:42-46 AMPC

42 These words of Esau her elder son were repeated to Rebekah. She sent for Jacob her younger son and said to him, See here, your brother Esau comforts himself concerning you [by intending] to kill you.

43 So now, my son, do what I tell you; arise, flee to my brother Laban in Haran;

44 Linger and dwell with him for a while until your brother's fury is spent.

*45 When your brother's anger is diverted from you, he will forget [the wrong] that you have done him. Then [b]I will send and bring you back from there. Why should I be deprived of both of you in one day?*

*46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth [these wives of Esau]! If Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth such as these Hittite girls around here, what good will my life be to me?*

**Note:** But Rebekah never saw her son Jacob again. He was well over 40 and probably 57 years old when he fled from Esau to Haran, and he stayed there at least 20 years.



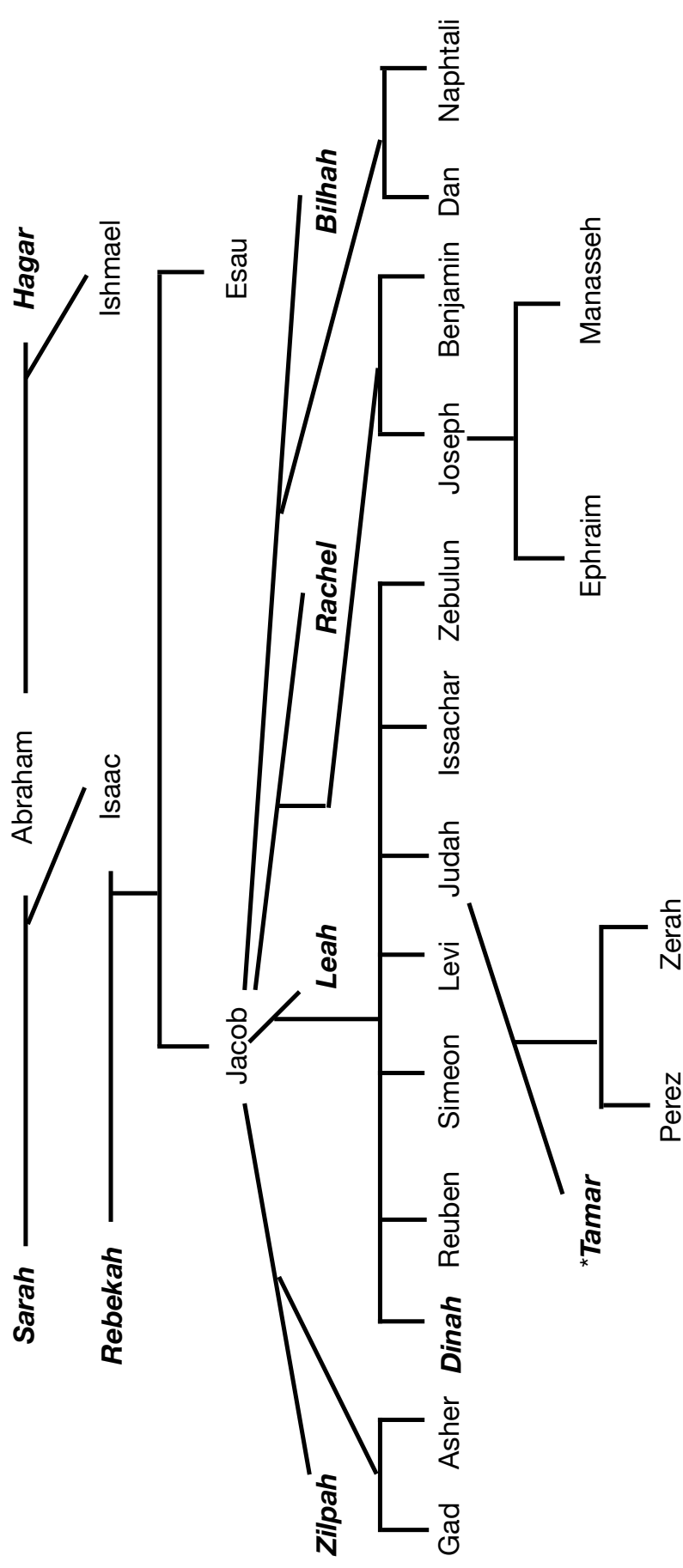
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## Family Tree of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph



Twelve Tribes of Israel: Gad, Asher, Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali

Twelve Tribes Receiving Land Inheritance: Gad, Asher, Reuben, Simeon, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali

The tribe of Levi did not receive land because they would become the priestly tribe without inheritance  
 The tribe of Joseph essentially received two shares - one for his son Ephraim and one for Manasseh

