

—Toledot—

Saturday Morning Torah Study

Shabbat November 26, 2022

(Plaut pp. 185-89)

Genesis 27:1-4:

א וַיְהִי כִּי־זָקֵן יִצְחָק וַתִּכְהֶינּוּ עֵינָיו מִרְאֹת וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־עֵשָׂו | בְּנֹו הַגָּדֹל
וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו בְּנִי וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו הֲנִנִּי: ב וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה־נָא זָקֵנְתִי לֹא יָדַעְתִּי
יּוֹם מוֹתִי: ג וְעַתָּה שְׂאֵ־נָא כְלִיךָ תָּלִיךָ וְקִשְׁתְּךָ וְצַל הַשֵּׁדָה וְצוּדָה לִי
צִידָה [צִיד]: ד וְעֲשֵׂה־לִּי מִטַּעַמִּים כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהַבְתִּי וְהִבִּיֵּאָה לִּי וְאֶכְלָה
בְּעֶבְרֹו תְּבָרְכֶךָ נַפְשִׁי בְּטָרִם אָמוֹת:

When Isaac was old and his eyes were too dim to see, he called his older son Esau and said to him, “My son.” He answered, “Here I am.” And he said, “I am old now, and I do not know how soon I may die. Take your gear, your quiver and bow, and go out into the open and hunt me some game. Then prepare a dish for me such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my innermost blessing before I die.”

Genesis 27:5-13:

ה וּרְבֵקָה שָׁמְעַת בְּדָבָר יִצְחָק אֶל־עֵשָׂו בְּנֹו וַיֵּלֶךְ עֵשָׂו הַשֵּׁדָה לְצוּד צִיד
לְהִבִּיא: ו וּרְבֵקָה אָמְרָה אֶל־יַעֲקֹב בְּנֵה לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה שָׁמְעַתִּי אֶת־אָבִיךָ
מִדְּבַר אֶל־עֵשָׂו אַחִיךָ לֵאמֹר: ז הִבִּיֵּאָה לִּי צִיד וְעֲשֵׂה־לִּי מִטַּעַמִּים
וְאֶכְלָה וְאַבְרַכְכָּה לִפְנֵי יְהוָה לִפְנֵי מוֹתִי: ח וְעַתָּה בְנִי שְׁמַע בְּקֹלִי
לְאֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מַצְוָה אֹתְךָ: ט לֶךְ־נָא אֶל־הַצֹּאן וְקַח־לִּי מִשָּׁם שְׁנֵי גִדְיֵי
עִזִּים טָבִים וְאֲעֲשֵׂה אֹתָם מִטַּעַמִּים לְאָבִיךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהַב: י וְהִבֵּאתָ
לְאָבִיךָ וְאָכַל בְּעֶבֶר אֲשֶׁר יְבָרְכֶךָ לִפְנֵי מוֹתוֹ: יא וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל־רְבֵקָה
אִמּוֹ הֲוֹ עֲשׂו אַחִי אִישׁ שֶׁעַר וְאַנְכִי אִישׁ חֶלֶק: יב אוֹלֵי יִמְשְׁנֵי אָבִי
וְהֵייתִי בְּעֵינָיו כַּמִּתְעַתֵּעַ וְהִבֵּאתִי עָלַי קָלְלָה וְלֹא בְרָכָה: יג וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ
אִמּוֹ עָלַי קָלְלֶתְךָ בְּנִי אֲךָ שְׁמַע בְּקֹלִי וְלֶךְ קַח־לִּי:

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 Eternal'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."

Genesis 27:14-17:

יָד וַיִּלְכְּ וַיִּקַּח וַיָּבֵא לְאִמּוֹ וַתַּעַשׂ אִמּוֹ מִטְעָמִים כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהֵב אָבִיו:
טו וַתִּקַּח רֹבֶקָה אֶת־בְּגָדֵי עֶשָׂו בְּנֵה הַגָּדֹל הַחֲמֹדֶת אֲשֶׁר אֵתָהּ בְּבַיִת
וַתִּלְבַּשׂ אֶת־יַעֲקֹב בְּנֵה הַקָּטָן: טז וְאֵת עֶרְת גְּדֵי הָעֵזִים הַלְבִּיֶשָׁה
עַל־יָדָיו וְעַל חֻלְקֵת צְוָאָרָיו: יז וַתֵּן אֶת־הַמְטַעְמִים וְאֶת־הַלֶּחֶם אֲשֶׁר
עָשְׂתָה בְּיַד יַעֲקֹב בְּנֵה:

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.

Genesis 27:18-23:

יח וַיָּבֵא אֶל־אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר אָבִי וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּנִי מִי אַתָּה בְּנִי: יט וַיֹּאמֶר
יַעֲקֹב אֶל־אָבִיו אָנֹכִי עֶשָׂו בְּכֹרֶךְ עָשִׂיתִי כַּאֲשֶׁר דָּבַרְתָּ אֵלַי קוּם־נָא
שָׁבָה וְאָכְלָה מִצִּידִי בַעֲבוּר תְּבָרַכְנִי נַפְשֶׁךָ: כ וַיֹּאמֶר יַצְחָק אֶל־בְּנֹו
מִהֲזָה מְהֵרָת לְמַצָּא בְּנִי וַיֹּאמֶר כִּי הִקְרָה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְפָנָי:
כא וַיֹּאמֶר יַצְחָק אֶל־יַעֲקֹב גְּשֶׁה־נָּא וְאִמְשַׁן בְּנִי הַאֲתָהּ זֶה בְּנִי עֶשָׂו
אִם־לֹא: כב וַיִּגַּשׁ יַעֲקֹב אֶל־יַצְחָק אָבִיו וַיִּמְשְׁהוּ וַיֹּאמֶר הַקֵּל קוֹל יַעֲקֹב
וְהַיְדִים יָדַי עֶשָׂו: כג וְלֹא הִכִּירוּ כִּי־הָיוּ יָדָיו כִּי־דִי עֶשָׂו אָחִיו שְׁעֵרָת
וַיְבָרַכְהוּ:

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

Genesis 27:24-29:

כַּד וַיֹּאמֶר אֶתָּה זֶה בְּנִי עָשׂוּ וַיֹּאמֶר אָנִי: כֹּה וַיֹּאמֶר הַגֶּשֶׁה לִּי וְאֶכְלָה
מִצֵּיד בְּנִי לְמַעַן תִּבְרַכְךָ נַפְשִׁי וַיִּגֶשׁ-לוֹ וַיֹּאכַל וַיָּבֵא לוֹ יַיִן וַיִּשְׁתַּ:
כּו וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו יֶצֶחֶק אָבִיו גֶּשֶׁה-נָּא וּשְׁקֵה-לִּי בְּנִי: כִּז וַיִּגֶשׁ וַיִּשְׁק-לוֹ
וַיִּרַח אֶת-רֵיחַ בְּגָדָיו וַיִּבְרַכְהוּ וַיֹּאמֶר רָא הֲיִחַ בְּנִי כְּרִיחַ שְׂדֵה אֲשֶׁר
בֵּרַכּוּ יְהוָה: [שְׁשִׁי] כֹּחַ וַיִּתֵּן-לָךְ הָאֱלֹהִים מִטֵּל הַשָּׁמַיִם וּמִשְׁמַנֵּי הָאָרֶץ
וּרְבֵדָן וְתִירֵשׁ: כֹּט יַעֲבֹדוך עַמִּים וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ [וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ] לָךְ לְאֲמִים הָיָה
גִּבּוֹר לְאַחֶיךָ וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ לָךְ בְּנִי אִמְךָ אֲרֻרֶיךָ אָרוּר וּמְבֹרְכֶיךָ בָרוּךְ:

He asked, “Are you really my son Esau?” And when he said, “I am,” he said, “Serve me and let me eat of my son’s game that I may give you my innermost blessing.” So he served him and he ate, and he brought him wine and he drank. Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come close and kiss me, my son”; and he went up and kissed him. And he smelled his clothes and he blessed him, saying, “Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of the fields that the Eternal has blessed. “May God give you of the dew of heaven and the fat of the earth, abundance of new grain and wine. Let peoples serve you, and nations bow to you; be master over your brothers, and let your mother’s sons bow to you. Cursed be they who curse you, and blessed they who bless you.”

Genesis 27:30-40:

ל וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר כָּלָה יִצְחָק לְבָרֵךְ אֶת־יַעֲקֹב וַיְהִי אַךְ יִצָּא יִצְאֵל יַעֲקֹב
מֵאֵת פָּנָיו יִצְחָק אָבִיו וַעֲשׂוֹ אָחִיו בָּא מִצִּידוֹ: לֹא וַיַּעַשׂ גַּם־הוּא
מִטַּעֲמִים וַיָּבֵא לְאָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר לְאָבִיו יִקָּם אָבִי וַיֹּאכַל מִצִּיד בְּנֹו בַּעֲבֹר
תְּבָרַכְנִי נַפְשְׁךָ: לֵב וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ יִצְחָק אָבִיו מִי־אַתָּה וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנִי בְּנֶךָ
בְּכוֹרְךָ עֲשׂוֹ: לֵג וַיַּחֲרֹד יִצְחָק חֲרָדָה גְּדֹלָה עַד־מָאֵד וַיֹּאמֶר מִי־אֲפֹא
הוּא הַצֹּדֵצִיד וַיָּבֵא לִי וַאֲכַל מִכָּל בְּטָרָם תָּבוֹא וְאַבְרָכָהוּ גַם־בְּרוּךְ
יִהְיֶה: לֵד כְּשִׁמְעַ עֲשׂוֹ אֶת־דְּבָרֵי אָבִיו וַיִּצְעַק צָעֶקָה גְּדֹלָה וּמְרָה
עַד־מָאֵד וַיֹּאמֶר לְאָבִיו בְּרַכְנִי גַם־אֲנִי אָבִי: לֵה וַיֹּאמֶר בָּא אַחֲיֶךָ
בְּמִרְמָה וַיִּקַּח בְּרֹכְתְךָ: לוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר הֲכִי קָרָא שְׁמוֹ יַעֲקֹב וַיַּעֲקֹבֵנִי זֶה
פְּעַמִּים אֶת־בְּכֹרְתִי לָקַח וְהִנֵּה עֵתָה לָקַח בְּרֹכְתִי וַיֹּאמֶר הֲלֹא־אַצְלַתְּ
לִי בְרָכָה: לז וַיַּעַן יִצְחָק וַיֹּאמֶר לַעֲשׂוֹ הֵן גְּבִיר שְׁמֹתִיו לְךָ
וְאֶת־כָּל־אָחִיו נָתַתִּי לוֹ לַעֲבָדִים וְדָגַן וּתְיִרֶשׁ סִמְכַתִּיו וּלְכָה אֲפֹא מָה
אֶעֱשֶׂה בְּנִי: לח וַיֹּאמֶר עֲשׂוֹ אֶל־אָבִיו הַבְּרָכָה אַחַת הוּא־לְךָ אָבִי בְּרַכְנִי
גַם־אֲנִי אָבִי וַיִּשָּׂא עֲשׂוֹ קֶלֶו וַיִּבְדֵּךְ: לט וַיַּעַן יִצְחָק אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו
הֲנֵה מִשְׁמַנֵּי הָאָרֶץ יִהְיֶה מוֹשְׁבֶךָ וּמִטָּל הַשָּׁמַיִם מֵעַל: מ וְעַל־חֲרָבְךָ
תַּחֲיֶה וְאֶת־אַחֲיֶךָ תַּעֲבֹד וְהָיָה כַּאֲשֶׁר תֹּרִיד וּפְרוֹקֶתָ עָלָו מֵעַל צְוֹאָרְךָ:

No sooner had Jacob left the presence of his father Isaac—after Isaac had finished blessing Jacob—than his brother Esau came back from his hunt. He too prepared a dish and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, “Let my father sit up and eat of his son’s game, so that you may give me your innermost blessing.” His father Isaac said to him, “Who are you?” And he said, “I am your son, Esau, your first-born!” Isaac was seized with very violent trembling. “Who was it then,” he demanded, “that hunted game and brought it to me? Moreover, I ate of it before you came, and I blessed him; now he must remain blessed!” When Esau heard his father’s words, he burst into wild and bitter sobbing, and said to his father, “Bless me too, Father!” But he answered, “Your brother came with guile and took away your blessing.” Esau said, “Was he, then, named Jacob that he might supplant me these two times? First he took away my birthright and now he has taken away my blessing!” And he added, “Have you not reserved a blessing for me?” Isaac answered, saying to Esau, “But I have made him master over you: I have given him all his brothers for servants, and sustained him with grain and wine. What, then, can I still do for you, my son?” And Esau said to his father, “Have you but one blessing, Father? Bless me too, Father!” and Esau wept aloud. And his father Isaac answered, saying to him, “See, your abode shall enjoy the fat of the earth

and the dew of heaven above. Yet by your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother. But when you grow restive, you shall break his yoke from your neck.”

Genesis 27:41-45:

מֵא וַיִּשְׁטֹם עֵשָׂו אֶת־יַעֲקֹב עַל־הַבְּרָכָה אֲשֶׁר בֵּרַךְ אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר עֲשׂו בְּלַבּוֹ יִקְרְבוּ יָמָי אָבֶל אָבִי וְאַהֲרָגָה אֶת־יַעֲקֹב אָחִי: מִב וַיִּגַד לְרִבְקָה אֶת־דְּבָרֵי עֵשָׂו בְּנֵה הַגָּדֹל וְתִשְׁלַח וְתִקְרָא לְיַעֲקֹב בְּנֵה הַקָּטָן וְתֹאמַר אֵלָיו הִנֵּה עֲשׂו אָחִיךָ מִתְנַחֵם לָךְ לְהַרְגֶךָ: מִג וְעַתָּה בְנֵי שְׁמֹעַ בְּקִלִּי וְקוּם בְּרוּחְךָ אֶל־לְבָבוֹ אָחִי חַרְוֵנָה: מִד וַיִּשְׁבַּת עִמּוֹ יָמִים אַחָדִים עַד אֲשֶׁר־תָּשׁוּב חֲמַת אָחִיךָ: מֵה עַד־שׁוּב אֶף־אָחִיךָ מִמֶּךָ וְשָׂכַח אֶת אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂיתָ לוֹ וְשָׁלַחְתִּי וְלִקַּחְתִּיךָ מִשָּׁם לָמָּה אֲשַׁכַּל גַּם־שְׁנֵיכֶם יוֹם אֶחָד:

Now Esau harbored a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing which his father had given him, and Esau said to himself, “Let but the mourning period of my father come, and I will kill my brother Jacob.” When the words of her older son Esau were reported to Rebekah, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him, “Your brother Esau is consoling himself by planning to kill you. Now, my son, listen to me. Flee at once to Haran, to my brother Laban. Stay with him a while, until your brother’s fury subsides—until your brother’s anger against you subsides—and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will fetch you from there. Let me not lose you both in one day!”

Genesis 27:46-28:4:

מֹו וְתֹאמַר רִבְקָה אֶל־יִצְחָק קִצְתִּי בְּתֵי מִפְנֵי בָנוֹת חַת אִם־לִקַּח יַעֲקֹב אִשָּׁה מִבְּנוֹת־חַת כְּאֵלֶּה מִבְּנוֹת הָאָרֶץ לָמָּה לִּי חַיִּים: א וַיִּקְרָא יִצְחָק אֶל־יַעֲקֹב וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתוֹ וַיִּצְוֵהוּ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ לֹא־תִקַּח אִשָּׁה מִבְּנוֹת כְּנָעַן: ב קוּם לָךְ פְּדִינָה אִרְם בֵּיתָה בְּתוֹאֵל אָבִי אִמְךָ וְקַח־לָךְ מִשָּׁם אִשָּׁה מִבְּנוֹת לְבָנוֹ אָחִי אִמְךָ: ג וְאַל שְׂדֵי יְבָרֶךְ אֹתְךָ וַיְפָרֶךְ וַיְרַבֶּךְ וְהֵייתָ לְקַהֵל עַמִּים: ד וַיִּתְּנוּ לָךְ אֶת־בְּרִכַּת אַבְרָהָם לָךְ וְלִזְרַעְךָ אֹתְךָ לְרִשְׁתָּךְ אֶת־אָרֶץ מִגְרִיךָ אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן אֱלֹהִים לְאַבְרָהָם:

Rebekah said to Isaac, “I am disgusted with my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries a Hittite woman like these, from among the native women, what good will life be to me?” So Isaac sent for Jacob and blessed him. He instructed him, saying, “You shall not take a wife from among the Canaanite women. Up, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel, your mother’s father, and take a wife there from among the daughters of Laban, your mother’s brother. May El Shaddai bless you, make you fertile and numerous, so that you become an assembly of peoples. May God grant the blessing of Abraham to you and your offspring, that you may possess the land where you are sojourning, which God assigned to Abraham.”

Genesis 28:5-9:

ה וַיִּשְׁלַח יִצְחָק אֶת־יַעֲקֹב וַיֵּלֶךְ פְּדָנָה אֲרָם אֶל־לָבָן בֶּן־בְּתוּאֵל הָאֲרָמִי
אָחִי רִבְקָה אִם יַעֲקֹב וַעֲשׂוּ: ו וַיֵּרָא עֲשׂוֹ כִּי־בָרַךְ יִצְחָק אֶת־יַעֲקֹב
וַיִּשְׁלַח אֹתוֹ פְּדָנָה אֲרָם לְקַח־לוֹ מִשָּׁם אִשָּׁה בְּבָרְכוֹ אֹתוֹ וַיֵּצֵא עָלָיו
לֵאמֹר לֹא־תִקַּח אִשָּׁה מִבְּנוֹת כְּנָעַן: ז וַיִּשְׁמַע יַעֲקֹב אֶל־אָבִיו וְאֶל־אִמּוֹ
וַיֵּלֶךְ פְּדָנָה אֲרָם: ח וַיֵּרָא עֲשׂוֹ כִּי רָעוֹת בָּנוֹת כְּנָעַן בְּעֵינָי יִצְחָק אָבִיו:
ט וַיֵּלֶךְ עֲשׂוֹ אֶל־יִשְׁמָעֵאל וַיִּקַּח אֶת־מַחֲלָת | בֵּת־יִשְׁמָעֵאל בֶּן־אֲבִרְהָם
אָחוֹת נְבִיאוֹת עַל־נָשָׁיו לוֹ לְאִשָּׁה:

Then Isaac sent Jacob off, and he went to Paddan-aram, to Laban the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, mother of Jacob and Esau. When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him off to Paddan-aram to take a wife from there, charging him, as he blessed him, “You shall not take a wife from among the Canaanite women,” and that Jacob had obeyed his father and mother and gone to Paddan-aram, Esau realized that the Canaanite women displeased his father Isaac. So Esau went to Ishmael and took to wife, in addition to the wives he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael son of Abraham, sister of Nebaioth.