

**A Pot of Stew**  
**Genesis 25:19-34**  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of the Christian's spiritual birthright.

- Intro:
1. People today often give up so much for temporary gains.
  2. God's people must be able to look into the future.

I. The importance of a Birthright.

- A. The physical advantages of the birthright
  1. Contained a double portion of the father's inheritance (**Deut 21:17**)
  - 2.
- B. The spiritual advantages of this birthright
  1. Patriarch and priest of the house on the death of his father (Barnes, Clarke)
  2. Chief of the chosen family, and heir of the promised blessing (Barnes)
  3. Able to invoke the blessing of Abraham, regarding the threefold promise (**Gen 28:4; 12:1-3**)
    - a. Such were the issues at stake when Jacob and Esau bartered over the birthright
- C. Esau's trade
  1. He gave into the cravings of his hunger - **Gen 25:29-34**
  2. He valued the red pottage more highly than his birthright
  3. For this reason he was called "a profane person" - **Heb 12:16**

II. The Christian's Birthright

- A. What is our birthright?
  1. We are heirs according to the promise made to Abraham - **Gal 3:29**
  2. We are joint-heirs with Christ - **Ro 8:16-17**
    - a. We are heirs according to the hope of eternal life - **Tit 3:7**
    - b. We are heirs of the kingdom which He has promised - **Jm 2:5; 2Pe 1:11**
- B. Do people exchange things for their birthright today?
  1. Succumbing to the passing pleasures of sin - **Heb 11:24-26**
  2. Lusting for things of the world - **1Jn 2:15; Jm 4:4**
  3. Walking after the flesh rather than after the Spirit - *Gal 5:16-26*

III. Lessons for Us Today

- A. How to hold on to your birthright.
  1. Pursue peace and holiness - **Heb 12:14**
  2. Exercise discipline and godliness - **1Co 9:24-27; 1 Tim 4:7-8**
- B. Results of not holding on to your birthright
  1. Be careful not to fall short of God's grace - **Heb 12:15**
  - 2.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Looking into the future can prevent us from making poor decisions today.
2. Esau missed out on a lot because of his inability to consider the future or future blessings.

### 3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9