

## WHAT PROFIT?

And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? Gen. 25:32

Esau was hungry. He thought he would surely die. Under the circumstances he had no interest in his birthright and readily sold it to Jacob for a mess of pottage. Visible things were so important to him that he overlooked the things that are invisible.

The characters of Jacob and Esau are very interesting. Esau is in some way the more attractive. He was a bluff and hardy fellow, forthright and frank in his dealings, enjoying the good things of life and not thinking very deeply about them. Jacob often seems like a shifty sort of chap, always seeking his own advantage and playing rather mean tricks on his brother. Yet we find that the Lord gave His blessing to Jacob rather than to Esau.

This does not mean that Jacob was a better moral character than Esau. It does mean that Jacob had a better idea of true values.

We are all miserable sinners before God. It is only through the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ that any of us are saved. After we are saved He starts our feet on the road toward sanctification. A man's condition is not as important in God's sight as the direction in which he is moving.

Let us pray that God will enable us to see the things that are invisible, and to seek to attain them. He can cleanse us of our sin, and make us fit for His use. He wants us to keep our eyes on spiritual realities.

—Prof. A. A. MacRae, Hatfield, Pa.