



Pastor Scott Velain

## Genesis Chapter 25

This week we will once again be taking a look at Genesis chapter 25, and as we always do, let's read through Genesis chapter 25 so that we can see exactly what it says, and just as equally important, what it does not say. Genesis chapter 25:

**Gen 25:1** *Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah.*

**Gen 25:2** *She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah.*

**Gen 25:3** *Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim.*

**Gen 25:4** *The sons of Midian were Ephah, Ephher, Hanoah, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.*

**Gen 25:5** *Abraham gave all he had to Isaac.*

**Gen 25:6** *But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country.*

**Gen 25:7** *These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years.*

**Gen 25:8** *Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people.*

**Gen 25:9** *Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre,*

**Gen 25:10** *the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife.*

**Gen 25:11** *After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi.*

**Gen 25:12** *These are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham.*

**Gen 25:13** *These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,*

**Gen 25:14** *Mishma, Dumah, Massa,*

**Gen 25:15** *Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.*

**Gen 25:16** *These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes.*

**Gen 25:17** *(These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last*

and died, and was gathered to his people.)

*Gen 25:18* They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. He settled over against all his kinsmen.

*Gen 25:19* These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac,

*Gen 25:20* and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife.

*Gen 25:21* And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

*Gen 25:22* The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

*Gen 25:23* And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger."

*Gen 25:24* When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb.

*Gen 25:25* The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau.

*Gen 25:26* Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

*Gen 25:27* When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents.

*Gen 25:28* Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

*Gen 25:29* Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted.

*Gen 25:30* And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.)

*Gen 25:31* Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now."

*Gen 25:32* Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?"

*Gen 25:33* Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob.

*Gen 25:34* Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

As we move into Genesis chapter 25 we see the end of the story of Abraham who is known today as the greatest Hebrew patriarch to have ever lived according to all three of the world's monotheistic religions. Abraham is highly revered not only by the Christian faith, but also the Jewish faith, and the Islamic faith as well.

We also notice the rather interesting transitioning phase from Abraham's son Isaac to his grandson Jacob, but before we get too far ahead, I'd like to concentrate just a little bit on Abraham's second wife after Sarah who we find in verse one of Genesis chapter 25.

### **KETURAH AND THE ARABS:**

Keturah bears Abraham another six sons, and there's a whole laundry list of grandsons that come from Abraham's second wife Keturah, but we're told that to these sons Abraham gives gifts and then while Abraham was still living he sends the sons of his second wife away from his son Isaac, and he sends them eastward into the east country.

We'll run into several of these children of Keturah later on in Scripture, and some of these children will never be heard of again, but one of the most predominant children of Keturah was a young man named Midian. Keturah's name is the Hebrew word "Ketoret", which means "spices". Her son Midian, became what is known as the Midianites. And the Midianites were well known as spice traders, and particularly of a highly valued spice called frankincense. Their territory was located on the Arabian Peninsula which bordered on the Red Sea. These are the same Midianites, and the same region where Moses fled from Egypt and where God came to Moses as a burning Bush, and it was from that same region where Moses had found a wife.

The six sons of Keturah, along with the son of Hagar the Egyptian girl, who was Ishmael, would go on to form what we loosely call today the "Arab peoples". The term Arab wasn't even really heard of until sometime after the reign of King David. And so, the term "Arab" or "Arabians" was never even really used until probably at least 900 BC, some nine centuries after the time of Abraham and Keturah.

And once again I want us to clearly be able to see and identify how our Father in heaven is consistently dividing, electing, and separating. Notice that Abraham gives gifts to all of his sons and grandsons, and then sends them away from Isaac eastward into the east country. Why does he do this? Because Isaac is the son of the promise. Isaac is the chosen one, who was chosen specifically by Yahovah God to carry forth the promise that God made to Abraham, and to bring forth the seed of Abraham that would produce more offspring than the stars of the sky, and make Abraham the father of all nations. This "seed" of Abraham was going to literally make Abraham the father of all nations.

It's important for us as modern-day Christians today, to know and understand, that Abraham is not the father of all of today's worldly nations. There is a large majority of people who are living in the world today who are not the descendants of Abraham. There are even some people in the world today who may even be related to Abraham by blood... and yet are not going to qualify as the descendants of Abraham. And it's important for us to understand these things in our day and age.

The bloodline of Abraham would carry on throughout history until the chosen seed of Abraham arrived on earth, that seed being, “Yeshua Hamashiach”, (also known as Jesus Christ in the Greek language). Let’s turn to Romans chapter 9 verses six through eight:

*Rom 9:6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,*

*Rom 9:7 and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”*

*Rom 9:8 This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.*

And so, I just want us to understand that the authentic fleshly bloodline of Abraham leads from Abraham to Yeshua. But from Yeshua’s time on... the earthly bloodline of Abraham is mixed with the spiritual bloodline of Abraham. Let’s turn to Galatians chapter 3 verse 16:

*Gal 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.*

Our Messiah is the true seed of Abraham that our Father in heaven spoke about that would cause Abraham to be the father of many nations. Let’s turn to Galatians chapter 3 versus 27 through 29:

*Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

*Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

*Gal 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

And so, in other words, it’s important for us to remember that there are going to be many people who are part of the 12 tribes of Israel including the Jews, who are actually in Abraham’s fleshly bloodline, that are not going to make it into the coming kingdom of our Messiah because they will have rejected our Messiah as the only begotten son of God. And there will be many people who are not descendants of Abraham by blood or by the flesh, who will be grafted into the spiritual line of Abraham because they have accepted Yeshua Hamashiach as the only begotten son of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

And so, as we look at how our Father in heaven has divided, and elected, and separated the children of Abraham in Abraham’s time, we should be able to see that this is a shadow picture of how the very earthly, fleshly bloodline of Abraham is once again divided, and elected, and separated through those who believe in Yeshua Hamashiach, and those who do not in our time.

In the end, the whole world will be divided, and elected, and separated by the seed of Abraham who would come thousands of years after the days of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, just as Yahovah had promised.

And I know we've talked about this briefly in the past, but I wanted to bring it up again just so that anyone who may be following along with us that has not understood these things... Can understand these things so that we don't lose anybody.

### **GATHERED TO HIS PEOPLE:**

In Genesis chapter 25 verse eight we find that Abraham died in a good old age of years and was gathered to his people. Once again, I'd also like to make mention of the importance of how people in the Torah thought of death. We have to remember that there was no promise of life after death that had ever come to anyone back in that time. That message of life after death and salvation through grace had not been delivered at that point in time.

It was understood traditionally that when a man died, his essence continued on through his sons, namely the firstborn son. Traditionally it was the firstborn son who was given his father's birthright. The father's birthright was extremely important back in those days because the son that had his father's birthright, had his father's blessing. And the son who had his father's blessing, traditionally was given at least twice as much inheritance as the other sons, and more times than not, the firstborn son who had the birthright of his father inherited everything from his father.

This was a major blessing that was not given or received lightly. And it was this very blessing that would buy in large dictate the rest of the son's life. As we'll soon see in the case of Jacob and Esau, there are some exceptions to a father's birthright being given only to the firstborn son. There are times when this is not the case, but it is rare that the firstborn son does not receive the birthright of his father unless there are extenuating circumstances, often times put forth by Yahovah himself.

At the time of Abraham's passing, Isaac would've been 75 years old and Ishmael would have been nearly 90 years old. Jacob and Esau would've been about 15 at that point in time. And so, this gives us a little contextual information on the family background of Abraham's sons and grandsons at the time of his death, but Abraham died at the good old age of 137 years of age. And there should be no doubt in our minds that Abraham was the greatest, purest, and most venerable of the patriarchs to have ever lived.

### **JACOB AND ESAU:**

In Genesis chapter 5 verse 21 we find that Isaac's wife Rebecca was barren and could not have children, much the same way that Sarah was barren and could not have children. But we also see in verse 21 that Isaac prayed to Yehovah for Rebecca to be able to have children, and

Yehovah granted Isaac's request.

Now at first glance this doesn't seem to be all that exciting, and there's no real story that goes along with this one sentence verse, but I would submit to you that this one sentence verse is much more important than we can even fathom. Our Father in heaven was not going to open the womb of Rebecca until Isaac asked him to do so. And I find this very telling. How many times in life do we find ourselves waiting around for something to happen that just never seems to happen? How many times have we been waiting for something, and yearning for something, and working for something, and it just never seems to come to fruition? There's a very interesting verse that can be found in the book of James chapter 4 verse two:

*Jas 4:2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.*

Think about that for just a moment. "You do not have, because you do not ask." How profound is that? How many times do we get so busy with our lives, and so wrapped up in the things of this world, and so overrun by our daily tasks and chores and responsibilities, that we simply forget to take the time to turn to our Father in heaven, and to get down on our knees, and ask him for what we need?

Isaac was no dummy. Isaac knew where his blessings came from. Isaac knew who could fix his wife's problem. Isaac knew that there is nothing that he could do on his own. And so, Isaac simply bows his head, and bends his knee, and makes his petition known to the creator of heaven and earth, and because Isaac took the time to spend with his Father in heaven, and to ask him for what he needed, our Father in heaven granted Isaac what he wanted. But I would also like to read the very next two verses found in James chapter 4 verses three and four:

*Jas 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.*

*Jas 4:4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*

How many times do we ask our Father in heaven for things to spend on our own passions, or because of our own covetousness? How many times do we ask our Father in heaven for things that do nothing but make us friends of this world? If we're asking our Father in heaven for something that is going to cause us to become more like this world... do you think he's going to give it to us? Do you think that's what he wants for us? Sometimes we just can't figure out why God won't answer our prayers, when God has already answered our prayers. The answer was no. And for good reason. Our Father in heaven knows what is good for us and what is not good for us. He knows what we're going to do with it, and he knows why we want it, and he knows how it's going to affect us if we get it.

Isaac was asking our Father in heaven for something that was good, and righteous, and just. Isaac was asking Yahovah for something that would help to fulfill the promise that Yahovah had made to his father Abraham. Yahovah knew that Isaac and Rebecca were more than ready to handle this precious gift, and so Yehovah granted him what he asked for.

## REBEKAH'S TROUBLE:

As we move into verse 22 we begin to see that Rebecca began to have some trouble with her pregnancy. These two children that were within her began to struggle and Rebecca once again knew exactly who to turn to. Rebekah knew the only one that would have the answer to her question, and so she turns to Yahovah and she asks him what is happening to her.

At this point in time Yahovah explains to her that there are two nations within her womb, and two peoples that will be divided. Yahovah tells her that one shall be stronger than the other and that the older shall serve the younger.

Now as we move through our Scriptures we will find that Esau who was the firstborn... will wind up selling his birthright for a bowl of soup to his brother Jacob. And so once again the prophecy of Yahovah will indeed come true. The older which was the firstborn "Esau" will serve the younger, "Jacob".

And this is a perfect example of how it is that our Father in heaven can see all of time. He sees time from the beginning to the end. Our Father in heaven does not live in a three-dimensional world the same way that we do. Time, space, and matter do not confine the creator of the heavens and the earth. God can see the whole parade, and he exists outside of time, space, and matter.

When you're in a parade, you can only see what's going on within a couple yards in front of you and a couple of yards behind you. But if you're in a helicopter flying overhead, you can see the whole parade from the beginning all the way to the end and everything in between. And the view from the helicopter is God's perspective on time. He knows what's going to happen before it happens. Once again... he is not confined by time, space, and matter. Our Father in heaven has no borders, and there is no box that we can put him in that could even begin to explain him.

And so, we see that Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of soup. And we find something else very interesting in the book of Hebrews chapter 12 verses 15 and 16:

*Heb 12:15 See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;*

*Heb 12:16 that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal.*

So according to the author of the book of Hebrews, Esau was and I quote "unholy". And I want

us to very quickly just jump over to Malachi chapter 1 versus two and three:

*Mal 1:2 "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob*

*Mal 1:3 but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert."*

The reason that God hated Esau was because he was "unholy". And we'll see how all of this unfolds as we move forward through the next couple of chapters, but as for now, I just want us to understand, at least in some small way... how our Father in heaven operates, and why it is that he does indeed hate some people who openly choose to hate him. We have to remember that Yahovah represents all that is righteous, just, obedient, faithful, and honorable.

Esau had it made. Esau was the firstborn, and the rightful heir to his father's birthright, and Isaac his father loved Esau. What more could Esau have asked for? He was loved by his father, he was obviously an accomplished hunter, he was blessed with the ability to provide for his family, and he had a little brother to take care of and to teach. But Esau through it all away.

You see Esau didn't care about anybody or anything except for Esau. Esau was covetous. Esau wanted what Esau wanted, when Esau wanted it. Esau had no patience, or self-control, or love in his heart for his father or his brother, or for God. These are not the traits of the seed of Abraham. And just as we see in the book of Romans, even though Esau was a descendent of Abraham by blood, this did not qualify Esau to enter in through the Gates of heaven. Once again... you must be part of the spiritually divided, the elected, and the separated in order to qualify as part of the seed of Abraham and heirs to the promise of Abraham. And Esau was about to see very clearly how God divides, elects, and separates.

We're going to experience a whole lot more about Esau and his relationship with his brother Jacob in the very near future, but before we close out Genesis chapter 25, I'd like us to understand a little bit about the sons of Ishmael, because there are some major implications today in our time between the Jews, who believe in the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, and the Islamic faith, who believes in a God that they call "Allah".

But before we get into these two different rivalry faiths, and these two very different gods, I want to just remind us once again that Ishmael was a "Semite", just like Isaac was a Semite. Both of them were sons of Abraham, and therefore in the direct line of Noah's son "Shem". In fact, all of the children that Abraham sired are indeed "Semites". So, the Arabs and the Jewish people are very much related because they're all Semites. The very term "anti-Semite" is really an oxymoron. "Anti-Semitic" is technically a term that means "against Semites", or "against the descendants of Shem. And yet we use this term to try and identify those who are bigoted against the Jewish people. Arabs are themselves Semites, and so if you are a Semite, how can you then become anti-Semite? I would submit to you my friends that just like the rest of the political landscape that we see in the world today... this simply makes no sense. But it is a term we use,

and a term that has been wildly popular for generations by those who don't understand the history of these two peoples.

Something else that I would like to bring to our attention is that just because Ishmael was rejected by God as the son of the promise... this does not mean that Ishmael was cursed by God. Ishmael was neither punished nor judged. In fact, God bless Ishmael greatly. Ishmael was given an almost equal inheritance as Isaac. Both of these boys would become 12 tribes. And I want us to remember this because this is extremely important for today's modern-day Christian to understand.

The Arabs of today who have been led astray by the false religion of Islam are by no means cursed by the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Today in our age the Arab people are generally known as the enemy of Israel, but they are not a cursed people any more than the people of the United States who have recently come against Israel by trying to convince them to divide their land. The Arabs have been and will continue to be disciplined severely by Yahovah for coming against his set apart people just as we Americans have been severely disciplined by God for forcing Israel to turn over some of their land to their enemies. But I want us to understand that the Arab descendants of Ishmael are not doomed forever. I'd like us to turn to Isaiah chapter 60 versus one through seven:

**Isa 60:1** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

**Isa 60:2** For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**Isa 60:3** And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

**Isa 60:4** Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

**Isa 60:5** Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

**Isa 60:6** A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of **Midian** and **Ephah**; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**Isa 60:7** All the flocks of **Kedar** shall be gathered to you; the rams of **Nebaioth** shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will beautify my beautiful house.

This my friends is an end time prophecy that is soon to be fulfilled. Notice the names "Midian, Ephah, Kedar, and Nebaioth are all the sons and grandsons of Abraham that are listed in the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of Genesis. And so, these Arab nations are going to gather together and they're going to come to Israel. They're going to bring gold and frankincense and good news and praises of

Yahovah and his only begotten son. They will be gathered back to Israel and they will eventually even minister to Israel, and they will come with acceptance on the altar of God and will beautify his beautiful house.

And so, I want us to understand as modern-day Christians, that our Father in heaven's unfolding plan is tectonically huge. In our Father's unfolding plan includes many people that we think of as our enemies today. And if I've said it 100 times I'll say it another hundred times... there are going to be people that we think are good, and righteous, and pious, who are not going to enter the kingdom of heaven. And there are going to be people who we think are unrighteous, and unholy, and just terrible, who are going to be accepted into the kingdom of heaven. And so, I want us to remember that it is written even in Romans chapter 11 verse 28... that as regards the gospel, the Jews are our enemies for our sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers, for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Once God says he's going to do something, it's irrevocable. It cannot be changed. And so, this is tectonically important for today's modern-day Christian to know and understand. It is also written in Romans chapter 9 verse 15 that God says and I quote, *"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."*

Now, with all of that being said, we have read through the last few chapters of the book of Genesis over the last few weeks, and we should be well acquainted and familiarized with the fact that the promise of Abraham made to him by God... was commanded by God to be through Isaac, and not through Ishmael. However... even though the Muslims acknowledge that this is what the Bible says... the Muslim say that the Bible texts have been corrupted and changed by the Jews and the Christians. They say that the Bible should say... that it was Isaac that was rejected, and that it was Ishmael that was the real son of the promise.

Now my friends I want us to all to understand that the religion of Islam did not even come into existence until the prophet Mohammed created it, with the help of the Catholic church. Mohamed's wife was a Catholic woman (and there's much more to that that we won't get into right now) but the Muslims fully agree with the fact that Mohammed created the religion of Islam. The problem is, that Mohammed wasn't even born until almost 600 years after the time of Yeshua Hamashiach. The last book of the Old Testament was written 1000 years before Mohammed was ever even born. The last book of the New Testament was written five centuries before Mohammed was ever even born.

The Old Testament as we know it was completed in 400 BC. The New Testament was completed in about 100 A.D. The founder of the religion of Islam.... was born in about 575 A.D. (after the death of our Messiah).

And so here comes Mohammed some 575 years after the death, burial, and resurrection of our Messiah, and he reads the Bible and decides that he's going to proclaim that it was corrupted by the Jews, and that he has the real truth.

Now let me help us understand what's going on here. This would be like me standing up today and saying that the Constitution that is under glass in Washington DC, that was written 250 years ago, is incorrect... and I... just happen to have the correct version of it. The Constitution of United States that was written 250 years ago, is corrupt... but Scott Velain now has the correct version of it in his possession. Would anyone believe that? If I were to stand up and say such a thing, I would be the butt of every joke on late-night television around the world within seconds. And yet this is how Islam came to be.

By the time Islam was ever even invented by Mohammed, the Roman Catholic Church was dominant throughout Europe and Asia. Constantine had already been dead for over 200 years by the time Mohammed was born. The Dead Sea Scrolls show us the original scriptural writings of the Hebrews from before the time our Messiah was born and they agree with the Bibles that you and I carry around in our hands today. Yet Islam says... that what Genesis should have said... is that Ishmael was the chosen one and that Isaac was the rejected one.

## THE SAME GOD?

My friends there are two ways that we can know who God truly is. Number one is his name that he gave us, and number two is his attributes. There are people out there who claim that the God of Islam, and the God of Judaism and Christianity is the same God (and the Pope is included in their ranks). But these people are just as bad, if not worse than the Muslims who are trying to convert the Christians by cutting off their heads. The Muslims kill the body... but the Pope and the rest of his ecumenical demons kill both body and soul by leading them into the wrath of God. It is written in Matthew chapter 10 verse 28 and I quote, *"Fear not those who kill the body, but rather fear him which is able to destroy both the soul and the body in hell"*.

The God of Islam glorifies death. The God of the Bible glorifies life. The God of Islam says that you are to convert the world to Islam through threats of violence and death. The God of the Bible says that believers are to win over converts by means of love and faith. The God of Islam does not see Yeshua as Messiah. The God of the Bible says you either accept my only begotten son or you're done.

The attributes, character, and instruction of the God of Islam as found in the Koran, is the exact opposite of the attributes, character, and instruction of the God of the Bible. And yet we've even had presidents and Christian religious leaders trying to tell us that the Christians and the Muslims are worshiping the same God. This my friends is not only insanity, it is blasphemy of the worst kind. Let's turn to first John chapter 2 versus 22 through 25:

**1Jn 2:22** *Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.*

**1Jn 2:23** *No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.*

**1Jn 2:24** *Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard*

*from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father.*

*1Jn 2:25 And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.*

As we close out the 25th chapter of the book of Genesis, I want us to go well armed. I don't want us to be ignorant of the bill of goods that the world is trying to sell us. Putting on the full armor of God cannot be done without the knowledge of Scripture being written in our hearts and in our minds. Putting on the full armor of God means that God's laws and his commandments and his precepts and his appointments are written in our hearts and in our minds. It means that we... just like our Messiah, have become the word of God made flesh.

The world is full of deceptions, and snares and traps of the evil one. He's constantly watching, and constantly waiting, and constantly preparing. Are we constantly watching, and constantly waiting, and constantly preparing?

My hope and my prayer is that we will teach these things diligently to our children, and that we would talk of them when we sit in our houses and when we walk by the way, and when we lie down and when we rise. My hope and my prayer is that we would bind them as a sign on our hands and in what we do... and that we would put them as frontlets between our eyes and believe them with all of our hearts. My hope and my prayer is that we will write them on the door posts of our houses and on our Gates... and that we would be fully prepared to stand in the evil day.

And this concludes our study into the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of Genesis, as we look forward to the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter this next coming July 11th on Wednesday evening at 7 PM Eastern standard time. Once again, I just want to remind everybody that we will not be having Bible study on the Fourth of July. We know that a lot of people will be out watching the fireworks and having barbecues and gathering together with family and so we are going to take a break this next week and we'll pick up on Genesis chapter 26 on the Wednesday after next... on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you so very much for sharing your time with me this Wednesday evening and for allowing me to put these things in your hearing, and as we always say... please... take the time to go to your prayer closet, and to bow your head, and to bend your knees, and to face the holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if the things you've heard here today be true, or not. Ask, seek, and knock and the door will be opened to you. And if you will do that... we'll walk together through the Gates of his soon coming kingdom.