

William Blake

"Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy."

(James 5:11)

Patience Of Job

Here is something you may not have seen before. The "patience of Job" is a well known catch phrase even amongst those who have never read the Bible let alone the book of Job. The word patience is also sometimes interpreted as "endurance".

The book Job has forty-two chapters and ends with the following:

"So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses. He had also seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first, Jemima; and the name of the second, Kezia; and the name of the third, Kerenhappuch. And in all the land were no women found [so] fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren. After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, [even] four generations. So Job died, [being] old and full of days." Job 42:12-17

So, who was Job and did the book really end at Job 42:17? If you have the King James Version of the Bible or virtually any other English version of the Bible this is where the book of Job ends.

As we have pointed out on this site in the past, virtually every English version of the Bible was translated from a Masoretic translation of the Old Testament.

"The Masoretic Text was primarily copied, edited and distributed by a group of Jews known as the Masoretes between the 7th and 10th centuries CE." Wikipedia

As we have also pointed out there were certain omissions and changes made to the Masoretic translation of the Old Testament from what was known as The Apostles Bible or the Septuagint or the LXX.

One glaring example of this is the omission of the word "Christ" which appears six times in the Septuagint version of the Old Testament. See: 1Kings 2:10, 1Kings 2:24, Psalm 2:2, Psalm 20:6, Daniel 9:25, and Amos 4:13.

"This is a very big issue folks! You cannot simply delete the name 'Christ' without completely changing this text and Christ's importance in the original Hebrew Old Testament.

But, was Job 42:17 really the end of the book of Job and Job's story?

Not according to Job 42 in the Septuagint. Job 42 in the Septuagint has additional information:

Verse 17 "And Job died, an old man and full of days: and it is written that he will rise again with those whom the Lord raises up.

This man is described in the Syriac book as living in the land of Ausis, on the borders of Idumea and Arabia: and his name before was Jobab; and having taken an Arabian wife, he begot a son whose name was Ennon. And he himself was the son of his father Zare, one of the sons of Esau, and of his mother Bosorrha, so that he was the fifth from Abraam."

Why would the Jewish Masoretes omit this from the Masoretic translation from which the English versions of the Old Testament are translated including the King James Version?

If you recall when Rebecca of Isaac was pregnant it was with twins Jacob and Esau.

"Abraam begot Isaac. And Isaac was forty years old when he took to wife Rebecca, daughter of Bathuel the Syrian, out of Syrian Mesopotamia, sister of Laban the Syrian. And Isaac prayed the Lord concerning Rebecca his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord heard him, and his wife Rebecca conceived in her womb. And the babes leaped within her; and she said, If it will be so with me, why is this to me? And she went to enquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord said to her, There are two nations in thy womb, and two peoples shall be separated from thy belly, and one people shall excel the other, and the elder shall serve the younger. And the days were fulfilled that she should be delivered, and she had twins in her womb. And the first came out red, hairy all over like a skin; and she called his name Esau. And after this came forth his brother, and his hand took hold of the heel of Esau; and she called his name Jacob." Genesis 25:20-26

Did you notice that Rebecca was the daughter of a Syrian not a Hebrew? You'll also recall that Esau being the elder sold his birthright to his brother Jacob and lost his blessing through a deception initiated by his mother Rebecca.

"And Jacob cooked pottage, and Esau came from the plain, fainting. And Esau said to Jacob, Let me taste of that red pottage, because I am fainting; therefore his name was called Edom. And Jacob said to Esau, Sell me this day thy birthright. And Esau said, Behold, I am going to die, and for what good does this birthright belong to me? And Jacob said to him, Swear to me this day; and he swore to him; and Esau sold his birthright to Jacob." Genesis 25:29-33

The Deception

"And Isaac said to Jacob, Draw nigh to me, and I will feel thee, son, if thou art my son

Esau or not. And Jacob drew night to his father Isaac, and he felt him, and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau. And he knew him not, for his hands were as the hands of his brother Esau, hairy; and he blessed him, and he said, Art thou my son Esau? and he said, I am. And he said, Bring hither, and I will eat of thy venison, son, that my soul may bless thee; and he brought it near to him, and he ate, and he brought him wine, and he drank. And Isaac his father said to him, Draw nigh to me, and kiss me, son. And he drew nigh and kissed him, and smelled the smell of his garments, and blessed him, and said, Behold, the smell of my son is as the smell of an abundant field, which the Lord has blessed. And may God give thee of the dew of heaven, and of the fatness of the earth, and abundance of corn and wine. And let nations serve thee, and princes bow down to thee, and be thou lord of thy brother, and the sons of thy father shall do thee reverence; accursed is he that curses thee, and blessed is he that blesses thee." Genesis 27:21-29

Once again, why would the Masoretes leave out this section of the book of Job?

We know that Jacob later had his name changed to Israel and fathered the different tribes which became the nation of Israel and "God's chosen people".

Now here is a man, Job, who has nothing to do with the nation of Israel and in fact is an Edomite, the offspring of Esau, whom the Israelis basically abhor, but nevertheless is the fifth from Abraham.

Jewish Tradition:

"Jewish commentaries have shed a negative view on Esau because of his rivalry with Jacob. He is considered to be a rebellious son who kept a double life until he was 15, when he sold his birthright to Jacob. According to the Talmud, the sale of the birthright took place immediately after Abraham died.[25] The Talmudic dating would give both Esau and Jacob an age of 15 at the time. The lentils Jacob was cooking were meant for his father Isaac, because lentils are the traditional mourner's meal for Jews. On that day before returning, in a rage over the death of Abraham, Esau committed five sins; he raped a betrothed young woman, he committed murder (Nimrod), he denied God, he denied the resurrection of the dead, and he spurned his birthright."[26][27] \mathbb{\mathbb{U}}

- ^ Bava Batra 16b. \
- ^ "Babylonian Talmud, Volume Bava Basra, page 16b". e-daf.com. \U
- ^ "Babylonian Talmud, Volume Bava Basra, page 16b (Soncino English translation)" Wikipedia

More of what the Bible says about Esau:

"And these are the generations of Esau, the father of Edom in the mount Seir. This is Esau, the father of Edom." Genesis 36:9,43

Moses when repeating the law the Israelites were to live by when entering the Promised Land in Deuteronomy chapters twelve through twenty six said of the Edomites:

Ch.23:7 "Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite, because he is thy brother."

The Septuagint version of of the Old Testament clearly states:

"It is written that he will rise again with those whom the Lord raises up."

What this does is cut out the exclusivity of salvation only belonging to a certain ethnic group of people. Abraham and Isaac were never Jews or Israelis, they did not exist at the time. They were Hebrews. Esau was the off spring of a Hebrew.

Had Esau not sold his birthright and lost his blessing through Jacob and Rebecca's subterfuge the world would be a very different place.

Could all this also help to explain the verse in Hebrews 11:18; "Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called."

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

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