

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

RLJ-1390

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### PART 32: BITTERNESS IS DEADLY

#### THE ROOT OF BITTERNESS

There is no emotion so damaging to the human soul and body as bitterness which is like a plant that starts with a tiny seed of discontent, a root begins to develop, and when the root is in place, it grows into a plant.

The apostle Paul was aware of this emotion and wrote a strong warning to the Hebrew Christians. **Hebrews 12:15**

Esau, the son of Isaac and Rebekah, was a prime example of the root of bitterness. **verse 16**

#### ESAU'S BITTERNESS

What caused Esau to become bitter?

1. There was a prophecy from God that Esau would serve his younger brother. **Genesis 25:21-26**
2. Esau was only accepted by his father because his mother favored Jacob. **verses 27-28**
3. As a young man, Esau was not interested in spiritual matters, he was careless about his future inheritance and God was not part of his life. **verses 29-34**
4. Later he resented the fact that he had sold his birthright for a dinner meal and began to hate Jacob. This hate grew stronger after Jacob lied to their father and stole the birthright. **Genesis 27:30-41**
5. Some 20 years later Esau and Jacob were reconciled but the curse on Esau was not lifted because he did not reconcile with God. **Genesis 33:1-9**
6. Esau tried to repent, but this repentance was focused on him getting his birthright back and was not about getting right with God and repenting of his sins. **Hebrews 12:17**

#### THE HOLINESS OF GOD

God is holy and must be approached with repentance and humility. A Christian cannot live a sloppy spiritual life and expect God to bless him. **verses 18-27**



## **THE KINGDOM OF GOD CANNOT BE SHAKEN**

Let us rejoice in the confidence that the Kingdom of God cannot be shaken.  
**verses 28-29**

*Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but  
how you finish it!*

*Do you have an ear to hear with?*