

Hebrews 12:12-17

GUARANTEED FOREVER - That's a pretty fair guarantee. Some Christians believe GOD'S BLESSING GUARANTEED FOREVER - Esau - Heb. is warning not to take grace for granted. Speaking to Christians about going on to maturity.

1. Moses
2. Israel
3. Samson
4. Saul
5. Rev. churches
6. Paul "castaway"

ESAU is an example - story red lentils, one of few jokes in Bible - "Feed that red to this red."

BIRTHRIGHT - temporal and spiritual blessing - double portion of inheritance - head of family and tribe - priest of people.

I. SELL BIRTHRIGHT

(1) Not birth relationship - still a son, but forfeit place of honor, inheritance blessing

(2) A man can sell his highest good, rights can be parted with.

(3) Profane person - before fane - fane was sacred of temple - outside fane was area open to everyone, not sacred, but secular. Esau had no sacred enclosure in his life - no sense of value of infinite things --- any and every part of his life was open to any and everyone and thing (Church on Sunday make once and all decision.)

(4) Small temptations can do it

(5) Sold in one moment, one weak moment.

(6) Buying present and temporary gratification at price of future and greater good. DESPISED BIRTHRIGHT.

II. THE PRICE

(1) Always same - a morsel of meat

(Illustration: Store - we'll sell anything -everything must go, for sale.")

(2) For physical satisfaction - useless for , faith for sight, future for present, eternal blessings for momentary fulness.

(3) I'm starving "to death - about to die" - ridiculous - (Ill: Many say "I have to do this to make a living."

- "What profit shall this birthright be to me?"

THE PRICE ... There's only one price that can be had for a birthright, morsel of meat - If he'd received Swift Packing, Neuhoff Plant, would be only a morsel of meat - COMPARED TO THE BIRTHRIGHT.

- If you've been so foolish to sell, I know what you got for it

- The Devil has no more in his wallet or bank than that - that's the highest price he can pay.

Illustration: Eve - that's all he gave to Eve - she and Devil struck first bargain about birthright.

"The tissues of the life to be
We weave with colors all our own;
And in the field of Destiny
We reap as we have sown."

- Better to die. Illustration: Christ in Wilderness Temptation.

III. AFTERWARDS

(1) Always an afterward

(2) Life has its finalities - life is one journey

(3) No place for repentance - unkind to parents. while youth, purity lost --- couldn't change choice.

(4) When - beside grave and can't pray. Boy missing in Viet Nam and can't believe -

at Judgment Seat of Christ,

Paul - Castaway

Moses - barred from Promised Land