

Intro:

Main Point of Text: Esau's descendants explode on the scene while Jacob's small clan will go down into Egypt; but in God's timing, the Israelites will far excel the Edomites because God has so ordained it.

Sermon Point: *God is sovereign.*

Move 1: Unbelievers seem to be moving ahead of you.

Moses highlights the contrast with Jacob just back in the land w/ 12 sons, who will go to Egypt. Esau takes possession of Seir and his sons own the "Land of Edom": vs. 16, 17, 21, 32. Sons noted as "dukes" ruling cities: Vss. 15-43. Highlighted in vs. 43. Vs. 31 rubs salt in the wound.

Move 2: But unbelievers just get a temporary parcel and play a small role in God's plan.

God said they'd be a nation (Gen. 25:23, 27:40). So He commanded their protection from Israel for a time (Deut. 2:1-6). But it was only temporary: Vss. 1, 8, 19, 43: "Esau is Edom": red, reminder he sold his birthright for red pottage (Gen. 25:30-34). Vs. 43: father of Edomites. NOT ISRAEL.

Esau always went for immediate gratification. Took wives from Canaan/Ishmael (Vss. 2-3, Gen. 26:34, 28:9). Never amounted to what Israel will become. Edomites no longer exist. 12 tribes of Israel now are populating the globe w/ Kingdom of Heaven.

Move 3: Christians: you have been chosen to inherit the earth.

Vs. 1, 9: "These are the generations", literary device showing Genesis' focus. Gen. 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:29; 36:1/9: Esau. THEN, 37:2: Jacob. Quick note about Esau's family, little detail. To move on to the expansive history of the Church. Vs. 6: Like 1 Chron. 1:35-54 versus CHAPTERS 2-8.

God is the Author of the Bible/history. He put these two nations in Rebekah's womb to be what they are: Gen. 25:21-26. All God's supreme authoritative plan. So the Edomites live this out: Numbers 20; Numbers 24:18-19; 1 Sam. 14:47; 2 Sam 8:14; 1 Kings 22:47; 2 Kings 8:20; Psalm 60 and 108; Psalm 83:6; Psalm 137:6; 2 Chron. 28:12; Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Amos, Obadiah, and Malachi.

Conclusion:

This chapter highlights again God's sovereign plan: Romans 9:10-16 (quoting Malachi 1:1-5).

You are only God's people because He has chosen you before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4).

God is sovereign.