

Why couldn't Isaac's blessing with Jacob and Esau be a do-over?

In Isaac's eyes, the blessing he delivered to Jacob should have been delivered to Esau and there are some who think that since it was a mistake, the mistake could simply be fixed.

1. What was considered to be the authority of the blessing?

Genesis **28:3-4**

Judges **11:35**

Romans **9:20-21**

To Isaac and his offspring, the blessing that he delivered to his children were considered to be as though God Himself spoke the blessing to those being blessed. Since the authority of the blessing belonged to God, who are we to overrule God?

2. What can we learn from the circumstances surrounding Isaac's blessings?

Genesis **27:9-13**

Genesis **27:30-35**

Genesis **27:19-24**

Genesis **25:23-26**

Jacob received the blessing from Isaac by deceit. At the same time though, Isaac believed that something was not quite right. Instead of trusting his ears, he trusted the voice speaking to him and he trusted his sense of touch. He did not seek to get any such confirmation about the identity of the son he was about to bless. To some degree then, Isaac did have an opportunity to correct the problem but he chose not to. But all of this was a fulfillment of the prophecy delivered by the LORD to Sarah regarding the favored position of Jacob, the younger, over Esau, the older.

3. What would it have meant if Isaac could have simply changed his mind?

Proverbs **25:18-19**

Proverbs **29:20**

Ecclesiastes **5:4-5**

Ecclesiastes **10:14**

Proverbs **18:17**

If Isaac could have simply changed his mind because his offered blessing was extended to the “wrong” person, then what would be the value of any of his words? When we speak we need to carefully consider what we say, how we say it, and to whom we say it. Words spoken rashly will bring about damage to ourselves and those around us. To speak rashly (without much thought) is to speak as a fool speaks. Furthermore if Isaac could have simply changed his mind because it was to the “wrong” son, later on could he not change his mind again because it was delivered to the “wrong” son in the past but now it is being delivered to the “right” son. Again his words would ultimately have no meaning.

4. What should we consider to be the authority of our word?

Matthew **5:34-37**

John **12:49-50**

John **8:28-29**

When we speak, we are called to speak only what is true. When we “change our minds”, some of our speaking was not of God but of the evil one.