

Why did Jacob and Esau who both were deceitful still receive such tremendous blessings?

Jacob and Esau were both rascals. Jacob obtained Esau's birthright by trickery, saying "Sell me this day thy birthright (Ge 25:31)" and Esau did not care about the things of God (Mal 1:3).

God said, "I loved Jacob and I hated Esau (Mal 1:2-3)." God loved Israel even when they were not lovely people at all (Deut 10:15).

J. Vernon McGee wrote:

A student came to the late Dr. Griffith Thomas with that question. "I have a problem," he said. "Why does God say that he hated Esau?"

"Well, I have a problem with that verse, too," Dr. Thomas replied. "But my problem is why God said that He loved Jacob. That's the real problem."

My friend, the real problem here is why God would say that He loved this people.¹

God loves the unlovable. Each person must first stop at the laver² to wash up like at the tabernacle of old (Ex 30:17-21; 38:8). The laver stood between the Holy Place and the altar. Priests would not enter with any trace of uncleanness (Lev 11:44).

John in the Book of Revelation wrote: The Lord loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood and has made us kings and priests (Re 1:5-6).

God has been good to all (Mt 5:45). Men can overcome (Eph 6:16; 1 Jn 2:13) to live a: changed (Ro 6:4-11), holy (1 Jn 3:9) righteous life (1 Jn 2:29) in love (1 Jn 3:10) and victory (1 Jn 5:4). That which God has made new (2 Cor. 5:17) is not condemned (Ro 8:1).

¹ McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible commentary: The Prophets (Malachi)* (electronic ed., Vol. 33, p. 17). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

² a bronze washbasin at the tabernacle of meeting