

For Monday, March 23, 2020

It is amazing to me that the Patriarchs pronounced blessings over their sons, and most of the time, those words became reality. Jacob spoke the words that Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, would become as his sons (in order to give Joseph two portions in the land of Israel, rather than just one), and long after Jacob's and Joseph's death, this pronouncement became a reality when the land was apportioned.

When Isaac blessed his twin sons, Jacob and Esau, although Jacob stealthily pretended to be his elder brother, Esau, in order to receive the blessing of the firstborn, the words with which Isaac blessed Jacob were not retracted. Isaac said later to Esau, "I have blessed him — yes, and blessed he shall be. The words that Isaac had unknowingly spoken over Jacob were in accordance with God's will for Jacob, as was attested to when Rebekah asked God why the twins in her womb seemed to be tussling. God told her that the elder one would serve the younger one.

When we align ourselves with the will of God (which we can find through reading the word of God), we can bless as the Patriarchs did, and see the outcome of those words, whose foundation is God's word. Standing on the promises of God, we can pronounce blessings for others, and — yes, blessed they shall be!

By the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we have the power to bless. Our words are powerful. Let us use them in these trying times to bless others, to encourage others, and to pray for others. Our words matter. Let us use them wisely.

-Pastor Elizabeth Coleman