

March 22, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: “Sinful Schemes, Sovereign Plan”

Series: Genesis: Beginnings

Text: Genesis 27

1. Our sinful schemes flow from **UNBELIEF** in our hearts, 26:34-27:25 (*see also Matthew 15:19; Mark 9:24; Romans 4:20-21; Hebrews 3:12; James 1:14-15*).
2. Our sinful schemes cannot frustrate God's sovereign **PLAN**, vv. 26-29 (*see also 12:1-3; 25:23, 34; 49:8; 50:20; Job 42:2; Proverbs 19:21; Acts 2:23; Romans 9:10-13; Heb. 11:20*).
3. Our sinful schemes still fracture our **RELATIONSHIPS**, vv. 12-13; 30-46 (*see also 4:8; 16:12; 37:4; 2 Kings 8:20; Galatians 5:15-21; Ephesians 4:25-32; Heb. 12:17; James 4:1-2*).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. What does the word “scheme” generally imply? Why? How is a sinful scheme more than a momentary lapse in judgment? What does it reveal about the state of a person’s heart? Who are the “sinful schemers” in Genesis 27 and how does their scheming reveal unbelief in each of their hearts? What specific truths are they not believing about God? What lies are they believing about both God and themselves?
2. When, in your own life, did your unbelief in something about God lead you to plan something that was, ultimately, sinful? What lies were you believing? What result were you hoping for, and what actually happened? What lesson did you learn? What can you do now to equip yourself to respond differently in the future?
3. Read Genesis 25:23 and Romans 9:10-13. What was God’s plan for Jacob and Esau? In Gen. 27, how did God fulfill that plan, even *through* the sinful plans of Isaac’s family? How was Jesus’s cross the ultimate example of God using man’s sin to fulfill His good plans? What does this tell us about God’s power, His promises, and His mercy on us? As we live in a sinful world full of sinful scheming, why is it reassuring for those who belong to Christ to know that God’s plans can’t be frustrated?
4. In Gen. 27, what painful consequences did each character in the story have to endure? How did it fracture their relationships both in the short and long term? How does it destroy relationships today in families, marriages, churches, etc.? According to Galatians 5:15-21 and Ephesians 4:25-32, what’s the solution? Based on what you’ve learned, do you have any fractured relationships that require either your confession or forgiveness? What can you realistically do to take a step toward that this week?

NEXT WEEK: “The War of the Seeds Continues,” Genesis 27:46-28:9

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