

WEEKLY SERIES

The Great Controversy

Chapter XII.- Jacob and Esau Episode 3

Especially will the corrupt passions control the mind of those who value Heaven of so little worth. Health will be sacrificed, the mental faculties enfeebled, and Heaven will be sold for these pleasures, as Esau sold his birthright. Esau was a reckless person. He made a solemn oath that Jacob should have his birthright. This case is left on record as a warning to others. As Esau learned that Jacob had obtained the blessing which would have belonged to him, had he not rashly sold it, he was greatly distressed. He repented of his rash act, when it was too late to remedy the matter. Thus it will be with sinners in the day of God, who have bartered away their heirship to Heaven for selfish gratifications and hurtful lusts. They will then find no place for repentance, although they may seek it, like Esau, carefully and with tears.

Jacob was not happy in his marriage relation, although his wives were sisters. He formed the marriage contract with Laban for his daughter Rachel, whom he loved. After he had served seven years for Rachel, Laban deceived him and gave him Leah. When Jacob realised the deception that had been practised upon him, and that Leah had acted her part in deceiving him, he could not love Leah. Laban wished to retain the faithful services of Jacob a greater length of time, therefore deceived him by giving him Leah, instead of Rachel. Jacob reproved Laban for thus trifling with his affections, in giving him Leah, whom he had not loved. Laban entreated Jacob not to away Leah, for this was considered a great disgrace, not only to the wife, but to the whole family. Jacob was placed in a most trying position; but he decided to still retain Leah, and also marry her sister. Leah was loved in a much less degree than Rachel. Laban was selfish in his dealings with Jacob. He only thought of advantaging himself by the faithful labours of Jacob. He would have left the artful Laban long before, but he was afraid of encountering Esau. He heard the complaint of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory. And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before." Jacob was distressed. He knew not which way to turn. He carries his case to God, and intercedes for direction from him. The Lord mercifully answers his distressed prayer. "And the Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee. And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock, and said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me. And ye know that with all my power I have served your father. And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me." Jacob related to them the dream given him of God, to leave Laban and go unto his kindred. Rachel and Leah expressed their dissatisfaction of their father's proceedings. As Jacob rehearsed his wrongs to them, and proposed to leave Laban, Rachel and Leah said to Jacob, "Is there yet any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house? Are we not counted of him strangers? for he hath sold us, and hath quite devoured also our money. For all the riches which God hath taken from our father, that is ours, and our children's; now then, whatsoever God hath said unto thee, do."

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10am-2pm **Friday** 9am-12:30pm **Wednesday** – 10am – 7pm
Closed Weekends & Public Holidays | Email: abc.nz@adventist.org.nz | Phone: 0800 50 22 22
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East Auckland City
Email Distribution: 21st January 2026
Printed: 24th January 2026

"Reflecting God's Love, Advancing God's Kingdom"

Welcome

Welcome to the East Auckland City Seventh-day Adventist Church.
We pray that your time with us will be blessed as we worship together.

Tonight Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 24th January 2026 7:00pm

Speaker: Sister Laina Alofia

Topic: Love Our Family Of Faith As Jesus Does

Venue: Zoom - **Zoom ID:** 836 3376 4709 - **Password:** eacsd

Next Week Prayer Meeting

Speaker: TBC

Topic: TBC

Sabbath

Divine Worship – 11:00am

Divine Service Speaker: Elder Fitu Ah-Young

Title: Rich towards God: Discipleship That Shapes Our Families | Luke 12:13–21 (NKJV)

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"Fulfil my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind"
(Philippians 2:2, NKJV)

This Week

SUNSET	OFFERING	CLEANING
Start Time: 8:33pm Date: 23 rd January 2026	Sabbath School Offering GC for World Mission	Next Week Duty 1: Jan 25 th to Jan 30 th Elder John Mata'afa and Team
End Time: 33pm Date: 24 th January 2026	Divine Service Offering Local Church	Duty 2: Jan 25 th to Jan 30 th Elder John Mata'afa and Team

VISITORS

Welcome to our visitors and newcomers. Please let our greeters know that you are visiting today. We would like to officially welcome you, and we are so happy to have join us.

SPIRITUAL BREAKFAST

Join Pastor Tehui Leverd each Sunday morning at 6am, on Zoom, for a feast on the WORD.

STAFF DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

☛ Special Announcement ☛

S.T.A.F.F. Discipleship Training with Pastor Tehui Leverd will resume after the 10 Days of Prayer, on Tuesday the 27th of January at 7pm on Zoom or at Pastors house in person

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

January 14th to 23rd 2026 EACSDA will be joining with PONSDA

8. 21/01 Wednesday - EACSDA Zoom

9. 22/01 Thursday - EACSDA Zoom – Fasting starts at 6pm

10. 23/01 Opening Sabbath - EACSDA in-person meet – Fasting ends at 6pm

<https://www.eacsda-nz.com/upcomingevents>

The 10 Days of Prayer videos are now on the church website and can be viewed at:

<https://www.eacsda-nz.com/churchresources/other-video-events-2026>

SABBATH SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Roster Sabbath School Prelims is on the Church Notice Board in the Foyer. Please follow the Instructions on the bottom of the Roster. We really Appreciate and Value your dedication and Commitment to Serve Father God. Thank you kindly. **Kind Reminder:** Sabbath School Council Meeting is on the 31st of January on Zoom 10am to 12:30pm

LITERATURE OUTREACH

Literature Outreach in your neighbourhood - If you would like to connect with your neighbour's with health and spiritual literature and have a taste of Literature Evangelism work, then please see Elder John to make a time to go out together in your neighbourhood. Phone: 021 165 3772

ADSAFE AWARENESS TRAINING

“Adsafe is conducting its first Awareness Training via Zoom session on Sabbath afternoon/evening 31 January 2026. Although the session has a Pathfinder/Adventurer emphasis, anyone can join the Zoom esp. existing or new church leaders or church members or volunteers working with children, young people, families or ministries such as Sabbath School classes hosting children or social events and community groups linked to EA Church.

Register in advance at: Awareness Training :: Adsafe (<https://www.adsafe.org.au/safeguarding/training>)

“Live Zoom Training Sessions” to receive the Zoom link. Persons attending the whole session will have their Training marked ‘complete’ in their eLearning account and will be updated by EA Church Board for health and safety. Enquiries can be directed to Adsafe at: training@adsafe.org.au”

On behalf of Pastor, Eldership and EA Church Leadership

GEAR-UP

Leadership Forum for Youth, Adventurers & Pathfinder Leaders. This leadership training is specifically designed for Youth Ministry Leaders and Assistants, as well as Senior Leadership Teams from Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs. This includes Club Directors, Deputy Directors, Secretaries/Treasurers, and one or two emerging leaders. All attendees must be 18+ years. | Registrations close Monday, 2 February 2026. |

<https://nnz.bluevineyardevents.com/gear-up26>

Church Bank Account: 38-9010-0456352-00 Phone Payment 09 277 8529

e-giving: [https://egiving.org.nz/EastAuckland\(NthNZ\)](https://egiving.org.nz/EastAuckland(NthNZ))

Church Pastor: Pastor Tehui Leverd TehuiriLeverd@adventist.org.nz 021 569 598

Head Elder: Fitu Ah-Young fahyoung@xtra.co.nz 021 818 214

Bulletin Editor: Leanne Manaro kaurilover@gmail.com 021 144 9366

If you require a home visit or phone visit please contact: Elder Franklin 021 177 1401

Zoom ID: 836 3376 4709 - Password: eacsda

UPCOMING CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 10 days Prayer & Fasting | Full Program overleaf | 14th of January to 23rd of January
2. Day Of Fasting | Thursday 22nd January 6pm until Friday 23rd of January 6pm
3. EA Church Eldership Meeting, Thursday, 22nd of January | in person | 7pm at Pastors Home
4. EA Church Board Meeting Sunday, 25th January | 9am at Church in person for new EA Church Board
5. STAFF Training | Tuesday Evening 27th of January at 7pm on Zoom or at Pastors house in person
6. Sabbath School Council Meeting | 31st of January | On Zoom | Time: 10am to 12:30pm
7. Strategic Planning & Leadership Day at EA Church | Date & Time TBC| Half day will be early February for ALL EA church leadership including new leaders for 2026
8. Gear-Up | February 13th 2026 to February 15th 2026 | Tui Ridge Park

Prayer Requests

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his Angels. - Revelation 3:5.

All heaven appreciates the struggles of those who are fighting for the crown of everlasting life, that they may be partakers with Christ in the city of God.... God wants you there, Christ wants you there, the heavenly host wants you there. The angels are willing to stand in the outer circle and let those who have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus stand in the inner circle.... A crown of glory waits for all who fight the good fight of faith. 62Manuscript 21, 1895.

🙏 Praise the Lord! In your prayers open with a season praise and stay on praise. Meditate on the goodness

of God, on His marvellous attributes of Love, Faithfulness, Forgiveness etc. For it is only by the blood of the Lamb we have overcome giants of 2025 and have come this far, abundantly blessed to welcome a new year, fresh season 2026.

🙏 Open your heart to God in deep repentance, only when you praise Him aright will you admit your need of God, of true repentance. Take time to talk with Him, be honest with God in your prayer closet. Lay all bitterness, pride, self-seeking ways, gluttony etc. on the altar of sacrifice and do not leave closet until you receive from above.

🙏 Uplift in prayer our Pastoral family, elders and families, leaders of 2026 for a special anointing of God's Holy Spirit over their lives. To fit them for the special work God has in-store for each one in His Vineyard.

🙏 Pray for all church families and each church member to be filled with God's Spirit, that we become united with one goal to live and work for the glory of God. To clear the Kings highway of our hearts, beginning in Jerusalem with the goal to hasten our Lord's soon coming and stay ready.

🙏 Continuous intercessory prayers upon Pastor Kris health and sister Daphne. For God's will alone to prevail upon Pastor's health and on the medical team. For Holy Spirits infilling on sister Daphne for strength and good health as she supports her dear husband.

🙏 Ongoing prayers for elder Samuel Aruwa still in Hospital, praise God for successful surgery.

🙏 Remember still our Buwawa family in prayers, for God's peace to be still and know that God knows and understand. Praise God for a legacy of love and faith our precious daughter & sister Talei has left behind.

🙏 Praise God for the Greatest Gift Outreach Concert, for His name was lifted up in the highest. May He draw to Himself all that He drew and give us wisdom to reach out to them.

🙏 Uplift the Newly Nominated roles for 2026-2027 as they prepare the work God has fit them for. For the Holy Spirit to be imbued in them and choose whom He has prepared.

🙏 Let's continue to watch and pray, focus and make time for our 1,2 and 3 daily in our personal devotion time and as a family.

🙏 Pray for those who are going on holidays, for travelling mercies and a joyful time. Bring them safely back for our new 2026 year.

🙏 Prayers for Elder Franklin for healing, who has had a metal filling in his eye that's made it swollen.

They will be included in our prayer list for the next 30 days.

If you have a prayer request please contact Sister Penny at pnakuta679@gmail.com