

WEEKLY SERIES

The Great Controversy

Chapter XII.- Jacob and Esau Episode 2

Rebekah was acquainted with Isaac's partiality for Esau, and was satisfied that reasoning would not change his purpose. Instead of trusting in God, the disposer of events, she manifested her lack of faith by persuading Jacob to deceive his father. Jacob's course in this was not approbated by God. Rebekah and Jacob should have waited for God to bring about his own purposes, in his own way, and in his own time, instead of trying to bring about the foretold events by the aid of deception. If Esau had received the blessing of his father, which was bestowed upon the first-born, his prosperity could have come from God alone; and he would have blessed him with prosperity, or brought upon him adversity, according to his course of action. If he should love and reverence God, like righteous Abel, he would be accepted and blessed of God. If like wicked Cain he had no respect for God, nor for his commandments, but followed his own corrupt course, he would not receive a blessing from God, but would be rejected of God, as was Cain. If Jacob's course should be righteous, if he should love and fear God, he would be blessed of God, and the prospering hand of God would be with him, even if he did not obtain the blessings and privileges generally bestowed upon the first-born.

Rebekah repented in bitterness for the wrong counsel which she gave to Jacob, for it was the means of separating him from her forever. He was compelled to flee for his life from the wrath of Esau, and his mother never saw his face again. Isaac lived many years after he gave Jacob the blessing, and was convinced, by the course of Esau and Jacob, that the blessing rightly belonged to Jacob.

The circumstances of Esau's selling his birthright represent the unrighteous, who consider the redemption purchased for them by Christ of little value, and sacrifice their heirship to Heaven for perishable treasures. Many are controlled by their appetite, and rather than to deny an unhealthy appetite, will sacrifice high and valuable considerations. If one must be yielded, the gratification of a depraved appetite, or the high and heavenly blessings which God promises only to the self-denying and God-fearing, the clamours of appetite, as in the case of Esau, will generally prevail, and for self-gratification, God and Heaven will be virtually despised. Even professed Christians will use tea, coffee, snuff, tobacco and spirits, all of which benumb the finer sensibilities of the soul. If you tell them they cannot have Heaven, and these hurtful indulgences, and that they should deny their appetites, and cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord, they are offended, look sorrowful, and conclude that if the way is so straight that they cannot indulge in their gross appetites, they will not walk any longer in it.

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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HOPE CHANNEL

Hope Channel is our partner in Christ. **Watch Live:** <https://www.hopechannel.nz/watch/>
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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:** eacsd

[facebook.com/eacsd](https://www.facebook.com/eacsd)



Our Church Website

<https://www.eacsd.com/>

You Tube

[East Auckland SDA](https://www.youtube.com/EastAucklandSDA)

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East Auckland City
Email Distribution: 14th January 2026
Printed: 17th 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 14th January 2026 7:00pm

Speaker: Poko & Lucky

Topic: Know Jesus as Our Living Saviour

Venue: Ponsonby Church

Next Week Prayer Meeting

Speaker: East Auckland

Topic: Love Our Family of Faith as Jesus Does

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

Sabbath

Divine Worship – 11:00am

Divine Service Speaker: Elder John Mata'afa

Title: The Goal Of The Godly | Matt 26:40-41

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21, NKJV)

This Week

SUNSET	OFFERING	CLEANING
Start Time: 8:41pm Date: 16 th January 2026	Sabbath School Offering GC for World Mission Divine Service Offering SPD Strategy: Discipleship of Christian Services for the Blind & Hearing Impaired	Next Week Duty 1: Jan 18 th to Jan 23 rd Elder Franklin & Sister Zelda Matthews Duty 2: Jan 18 th to Jan 23 rd Elder Franklin & Sister Zelda Matthews
End Time: 8:41pm Date: 17 th January 2026		

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

*****CLEANING ROSTER FOR 1ST QUARTER 2026*****

These are the dates available for the new year. Please contact Sister Leanne 0211449366. Or leave a message on one of the church Facebook chats. 🙏 Feb (1-6), Mar (8-13), Mar (22-27) God bless 🙏

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

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

1. 14/01 Wednesday — PONSDA in-person meet
2. 15/01 Thursday - EACSDA Zoom
3. 16/01 Friday - EACSDA Zoom
4. 17/01 Sabbath Afternoon - Crichtons in-person meet
5. 18/01 Sunday Afternoon - Leverds in-person meet
6. 19/01 Monday - EACSDA Zoom
7. 20/01 Tuesday - EACSDA Zoom
8. 21/01 Wednesday - EACSDA Zoom
9. 22/01 Thursday - EACSDA Zoom
10. 23/01 Opening Sabbath - EACSDA in-person meet

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

NOTICE FOR ADVENTURERS & PATHFINDERS

Adventurers & Pathfinders classes will resume Sabbath, the 17th January 2026. Registrations will open for new students and current ones for this year in February. Investiture for the year 2025 will be on the 21st of February 2026.

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

“Adsafes 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 :: Adsafes (<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 Adsafes 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>

UPCOMING CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 10 days Prayer & Fasting | Full Program overleaf | 14th of January to 23rd of January
2. Pathfinders & Adventurers will start Sabbath 17th of January
3. EA Church Eldership Meeting, Thursday, 22nd of January | Time TBC
4. EA Church Board Meeting, Sunday, 25th of January | Time TBC
5. STAFF Training | Tuesday Evening 27th of January at 7pm on Zoom or at Pastors house in person
6. 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 our 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 and 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**