

Have you ever wondered, as I have, why when Isaac mistakenly gave Jacob, Esau's blessing and then said he could not take it back. It always seemed to me that Isaac could have told Jacob; "You thieving, conniving son. You shall not have the blessing, instead because of what you have done you will receive the curse due a thief."

But that is not what happens. Why?

Jacob means he grasps the heel, a Hebrew idiom for *he takes advantage of or he deceives*. But Jacob, true to his name, gets away with his fathers blessing and seems to do it with impunity.

It's a curious story on the surface.

The Hebrew word (*davar*) is normally translated as "word." But is also translated as "thing," in certain cases such as we can see in Numbers 18:7 where it says, "*all the things of the altar.*"

In the Hebrew mind, "words" are "things," they have just as much substance as any other "thing." This helps us with understanding a few things in the Bible. When Jacob stole his brother's birthright in Genesis 27 he took the "words" from his father Isaac that were meant for his brother.

When his brother Esau came for his blessing, his father said that he had already given it to Jacob. This is why Isaac couldn't just tell Jacob that the blessing he gave him didn't count because he (Jacob) had stolen the words.

In the Hebrew mind words cannot be taken back as they have already been spoken. It is the same as if Isaac had given Jacob something physical, like a glass of water. Once Jacob drank from the glass it cannot be taken back.

We should probably keep this in mind when we speak. Our words have an effect on others just as we see in Proverbs 12:8; "*A rash speaker is like piercings of a sword, and the tongue of the wise is healing.*"

I can't count the times I have said something, usually in jest, and then seen how the person perceives it and is offended or hurt.

I want to yell, "Stop – Rewind" and take back what I had just said and be more caring in my response. But Rewind in life doesn't happen.

In life situations maybe the Hebrew mind was more accurate than our Western minds. Words are powerful things. Maybe not physical things, as in Hebrew thought, but certainly they have a power that can hurt or heal, and can't be retrieved once spoken.

With this additional understanding of the way the Hebrew mind treated the word *davar* {also spelled *dvar*}, we might look at how John began his Gospel by talking of Jesus as "the word". {John was probably writing in Greek but he was thinking as a Hebrew. So we might need to look at the word from the Hebrew mindset}

The New International Version of the Bible puts it this way: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* ² *He was with God in the beginning.* John 1:1-2

The closest I can currently get this translated the way Hebrews thought is the Orthodox Jewish Bible. {Hashem (the name) is a proper way of saying God without using his actual name.}

Bereshis (in the Beginning) was the Dvar Hashem, and the Dvar Hashem was agav (along with) Hashem, and the Dvar Hashem was nothing less, by nature, than Elohim (God)! ² Bereshis (in the Beginning) this Dvar Hashem was with Hashem. Yochanan 1:1-2 Orthodox Jewish Bible

Where the English translations just use the word "Word", the Jewish translation uses the word Dvar Hashem; giving us the understanding that this is the "Word of God" and in Hebrew thought means that this is a "real thing" not just a verbalization. It also differentiates between the Dvar HaShem and the Hashem, which I take to mean the Son and the Father.

This is the way we have been taught, but now it seems we have a reason why we were taught that this was the Son – Jesus (Yeshua).

This Dvar Hashem is not only the "Word of God" but is a physical thing (being) with the power we find in words.

Extrapolating from Hebrew thought we could also say that the Word has been given and it cannot be retracted or taken back.

Just as Isaac could not take back his blessing, the Father will not take back our Savior.