

# THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

## THE LEADERSHIP OF TORAH

November 18, 2021 | Erica Brown | The Lies of Leadership

Devin Schain: I feel like it is the Jewish Version of Romper Room

Scott Stone: Sorry to be "Camera off". On the peloton.

Angie Atkins: @Scott - 2 good things!! Self care with Torah and Peloton — YOFI

Becca Thomas: Erica's source sheet for today is accessible here:

[https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-18\\_Gen.-27-Leadership-and-Lying.pdf](https://www.wexnerfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/11-18_Gen.-27-Leadership-and-Lying.pdf)

Reisa's iPhone: A lot of pain. No joy

Scott Stone: He's focused on god and not on who he thinks is Esau

Angie Atkins: His shoes are off — as if on holy ground

Reisa's iPhone: The setting of the bed and one foot is not out. And looks short

Scott Stone: Issac has white hands but a red face

Jacqueline Shelton: The staff and shoes are placed rather haphazardly on the floor - almost as if they've been thrown off.

Jon Cardin: Jacob seems so innocent compared to the others

Debbie Toizer (she/her): Everything is pretty dark except for Isaac, who is lit up

Caren Hammerman: Jacob's hands seem clasped in supplication

Jeffrey Spear: Maybe reading into it, but Rebecca showing the frustration of a caregiver.

Jon Cardin: but the second kid is for his hairy scarf??

Ariel Nelson: not only high quality but high quantity. whyt need TWO goats?

Jacqueline Shelton: It's interesting if he is close to dying that he is hungry enough to eat a large meal.

Goldie Lansky: Does he need to eat or does she need to give?

Ariel Nelson: or more food adds to the food coma and confuses things more, making it easier to trick him

Reisa's iPhone: Isaac albeit close to dying looks very strong in the painting

Sonia: it's Rebecca's way of tricking Isaac

Allan Baumgarten: Isaac lingers for another 30 years

Scott Stone: Is he feeling guilty for tricking Esau out of his birthright?

Jon Cardin: First demonstration of self awareness of both mom and son and biblical demonstration of the long term psychological impact of traumatic experiences

Susie Sorkin: interesting - for the Torah to give such agency to women. especially for the time it was written. but again giving the curse to women (like Eve).

Caroline Harris: Jacob has Rebekah's DNA in her, so if she's a "trickster" rather than an agent for destiny, he does have that in him.

Jacqueline Shelton: @Caroline - yes but given his acknowledgment of what is going to do and the thought it will be not okay and a curse, makes me wonder if he is more “innocent” because he felt had to obey his mother.

Alan Brown: Your hair looks great

Gideon Pollack: A lie that could have made my life easier? I'm in construction, already had five this morning!

Jon Cardin: As a legislator, I could lie everyday to my constituents and set blame on others and it is so easy to spin

Scott Stone: When our were children (born from an egg donor and surrogate and two dads ) asked us if we know who the father is we had agreed to say no. But the truth was we do know and decided to tell them we know but would not tell them as it's not important. It has made this a long running issue.

Scott Stone: But we think the right decision.

Susie Sorkin: While this is not related to the questions you are asking but rereading this story makes me think about how we are the beneficiaries of Jacob's deceit. And how that relates to how think about systemic inequities and our privileges

Scott Stone: Revealing who is and who is not vaccinated at the synagogue. Right now we are hiding behinds hppa laws

Stefanie Zelkind: Thinking about distinction between “full transparency” and sharing information more selectively.

Ariel Nelson: I am regularly aware of organizational restructurings that are in the works and in conversations with people that will be impacted

Sue BK (she/her): Question: Why does Rebekkah construct this lie? What would have happened if she had been honest with Isaac about her vision during pregnancy and asked him to give Jacob his blessing because this would be the better path?

Jessica Semel: awards when we request names to be nominated even though someone already knows who will be the recipient...

Michelle Anfang: allowing a past president to lead a major campaign, though every other leader fears she will fail. accepts no help or guidance, but all want her to save face

Gideon Pollack: It's sad that I'm not looking forward to kid vaccines because it will be a nightmare to deal with the many strong opinions of parents on vaccine mandates.

Larry Gellman: I believe that as a veteran of top leadership positions in Federation, Israel Bonds, AIPAC and now J Street there are constantly agenda-promoting fake news and lies that are promoted for the sake of appeasing big donors and/or other leaders. I think that “spin” is often required but outright lying—saying something that one KNOWS is untrue even as he or she says it—is never acceptable or a good long term strategy.

Lynn Gordon: Respecting a leaders personal reasons for stepping down from a leadership role.

Jessica Semel: my kids always tease me about who is the favorite. I tell them they each get a day of the week, lol.PS they are 23 - 28 - 31.

Lynn Gordon: Thanks I reposted

Bob Wertheimer: I'm sure Issac knew

Sonia: Facebook is a perfect example

Becca Thomas: If you haven't yet completed our brief survey about this course, please do so here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRP3CKT>

Scott Stone: Toda

Sonia: Shabbat shalom!

Scott Stone: Shabbat shalom

Angie Atkins: The ongoing Beit Midrash document can be accessed here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CKXtpqyYC1qxz0x65iHCzxONiPIgcMVzE9vhXk8uYHk/edit?usp=sharing>

Debbie Toizer (she/her): Thank you!