

Leaders of religious private schools seeking (demanding) public funds should reflect on the narrative of Jacob and Esau in the Old Testament.

Esau came back from a hunting trip very hungry. His twin brother Jacob had made some kind of stew. Esau was very hungry and asked for some of Jacob's stew. Jacob weaseled Esau's birthright for a mess of pottage. Esau's hunger got the best of him and sold his birthright.

The hunger of some religious private schools for tax money has gotten the best of them. They are taking tax funds—a mess of pottage—in trade for their birthright. Eventually the government will regulate the privates to the point that they will lose their original identity, purpose and mission, their birthright. They will become public schools with a private name.