Lesson I. JACOB'S VISION AND GOD'S PROMISE April 7, 1907

BETWEEN THE LESSONS-The present Lesson is close-linked with Lesson XI. of the First Quarter (ch. 27), which ends with Rebekah's counsel to Jacob, to flee to her brother Laban, to Haran, Rebckah's own old home (chs. 11:29; 24:15), until Esau's anger should be past. She wins Isaac's consent to the scheme, by pretending to be alarmed lest Jacob should take a wife, as Esau had done (ch. 26: 34, 35), from among the heathen people about them, ch. 27:46.

GOLDEN TEXT-Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, -- Genesis 28: 15.

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Genesis 28: 1-5, 10-22. Genesis 27: 46 to 28: 42. Memorize vs. 13, 14.* Read

1 And I'saac called Ja'cob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Ca'naan.

2 Arise, go to Pa'dan-ar'am, to the house of Bethu'el thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of La'ban thy mother's

brother.

3 And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a 1 multitude of people;

4 And give thee the blessing of A'braham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land 2 wherein thou art a stranger, which

God gave unto A'braham. 5 And I'saac sent away Ja'cob: and he went to Pa'dan-ar'am unto La'ban, son of Bethu'el the Syr'ian, the brother of Rebek'ah, Ja'cob's and

E'sau's mother. 10 And Ja'cob went out from Beer-she'ba, and went toward Har'an.

went toward Har'an.

11 And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took 3 of the stones of that place, and put 5 them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

13 And, behold, the Lond stood above it, and said, I am the Lond & God of A'braham thy father,

and the God of I'saac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and tou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth

be blessed.

15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will kep thee 'in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of, 16 And Ja'cob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew

it not.

it not.

17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

18 And Ja'cob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put ⁷ for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. 19 And he called the name of that place Beth'el: but the name of 4 that city was *called* Luz at the first.

first.

20 And Ja'cob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, 21 So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God:

22 And this stone, which I have set. ° for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Revised Version—1 company of peoples; 2 of thy sojournings, which; 3 one; 4 the; 5 it under his head; 6 whithersoever thou goest; 7 under his head; 8 Omit called; 9 up.

Daily Readings-(Courtesy, I. B. R. A.)-M.-Jacob's vision and God's promise, Gen. 28: 1-5, 10-22. T.—The promise fulfilled, Gen. 35: 1-15. W.--"I am with thee," Isa. 41: 8-14. Th.—Safe keeping, Deut. 31: 1-8. F.—Present to save, Jer. 30: 7-11. S.—" My Refuge," Ps. 91. S.—" My Helper," Ps. 121.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. THE DEPARTURE.-1-5. Isaac; now old and practically blind. Called Jacob; falling innocently in with Rebekah's crafty scheme. Blessed



BETHEL AS IT NOW APPEARS

him. The "blessing" (see ch. 27: 28, 29), though got by fraud, now belonged to Jacob and is here in substance repeated. Thou shalt not, etc.; an echo of Rebekah's words, ch. 27: 46. Go to Padan-aram; "the field of Aram", the region on the northern Euphrates in which Haran was situated. God Almighty bless thee. Isaac's blessing given to Jacob, as did the blessing of Abraham (compare chs. 17: 1-8; 22: 15-18), includes the promises of numerous descendants; and the complete possession of Canaan Sent away Jacob; who must now have called bitterly to mind his former deception of his father. The Syrian; Hebrew, "Aramean", that is, a native of Aram.

II. THE VISION.-10-12. From Beer-sheba; in the far south, mentioned as Isaac's dwelling place in Gen. 26: 23. Toward Haran. See, Geography Lesson. A certain place; Bethel, v 19. (See, Geography Lesson.) One of the stones (Rev. Ver.). for his pillows. The ground was covered by large sheets of bare rock, with fragments standing up here and there like the monuments of the ancient Druids in Britain. Lay down .. to sleep. It is no hardship for an Oriental to sleep in the open air. The hardship was the loneli-

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Lessons are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. They will be found in the Supplemental Lesson Leaflets.