

**SECOND QUARTER.**

**Old Testament History.—Cont.**

**1st APRIL.**

**JACOB'S PREVAILING PRAYER.**

Les. Gen. 32 : 9-12, 24-30. Gol. text. Gen. 32 : 26.  
Mem. vs. 28-30. Catechism, Q. 95.

**HOME READINGS.**

M. Gen. 29 : 1-14.....*Jacob at Padan-aram.*  
T. Gen. 31 : 41-55.....*Jacob Parting with Laban.*  
W. Gen. 32 : 1-12.....*Jacob's Message to Esau.*  
Th. Gen. 32 : 13-21.....*Jacob's Present to Esau.*  
F. Gen. 32 : 22-32.....*Jacob's New Name.*  
S. Luke 11 : 1-13.....*Importunity in Prayer.*  
S. Luke 18 : 1-8.....*Perseverance in Prayer.*

*Time.*—B. C. 1739, twenty-one years—according to other authorities forty years—after the vision at Bethel.

*Place.*—Peniel, at one of the fords of Jabbok, a stream entering the Jordan from the east, half-way between the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee.

*Opening Words.*—Jacob went from Bethel (Lesson X. last quarter) to Haran. There he married Leah and Rachel, and remained twenty, or, according to another reckoning, forty years. Eleven sons were born to him, and he became rich in flocks. He was now returning to Canaan. Word was brought to him that Esau was coming to meet him with four hundred men. After making prudent arrangements for the meeting, Jacob sought in solitude the God of his father's.

*Helps in studying.*—9. *Saidst unto me*—see chap. 31 : 3. *Thy country*—Canaan. 10. *With my staff*—with no property. *Jordan*—the principal river of Palestine. *Two bands*—with his wives, children, servants and flocks. 12. *Thou saidst*—see chap. 28 : 13-15. 24. *A man*—in v. 30 Jacob calls him "God." In Hosea 12 : 4, 5 he is called "the Angel," the Angel of the Covenant. 28. *Touched*—to show his divine power. *Hollow of his thigh*—the socket of the hip-joint. 26. *Let me go*—Jacob still clung to him. 2 Cor. 12 : 10. 27. *I will not let thee go*—he wants a new blessing. 28. *No more Jacob, but Israel*—no more "supplanter," but now "prince with God." 30. *Peniel*—"face of God."

*Introductory.*—Where did Jacob go from Bethel? Whom did he marry? How was he prospered? Why did he fear Esau? Title? Golden Text? Lesson plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *Praying for Deliverance.* vs. 9-12.—What was Jacob's prayer? What promise did he plead? What confession did he make? What thanks did he give? What should we do when in trouble? Psalm 50 : 15. What counsel does the apostle give us in Phil. 4 : 6?

II. *Wrestling with the Angel.* vs. 24, 25.—Who wrestled with Jacob? What is he called in v. 30? What in Hosea 12 : 4? Who was he? How long did the wrestling continue? Of what was it an emblem? How did the Angel show his power? What did he request? What did Jacob reply?

III. *Getting the Blessing.* vs. 28-30.—What did the Angel inquire? What did Jacob answer? What new name did he receive? Why? What blessing did he seek? What blessing did he get?

1. We should be earnest and importunate in prayer.
2. It is only in God's own strength that we can prevail with God.
3. God always answers prayer; if not in the way we ask, in a better way.
4. Power with God will give power with men.

**8th APRIL.**

**DISCORD IN JACOB'S FAMILY.**

Les. Gen. 37 : 1-11. Gol. Text, Gen. 45 : 24.  
Mem. vs. 3, 4. Catechism, Q. 96.

**HOME READINGS.**

M. Gen. 33 : 1-20.....*Jacob's Meeting with Esau.*  
T. Gen. 35 : 1-15.....*Jacob Revisits Bethel.*  
W. Gen. 37 : 1-11.....*Discord in Jacob's family.*  
Th. John 15 : 17-27.....*Jesus Hated.*  
F. Rom 12 : 1-21.....*Love Without Dissimulation.*  
S. 1 John 3 : 11-24.....*Hatred—Murder.*  
S. Psalm 133 : 1-3.....*Brethren in Unity.*

*Time.*—B. C. 1720, ten years after the last lesson.

*Place.*—Hebron, twenty miles south of Jerusalem.

*Opening Words.*—Jacob, after he had met his brother Esau, went to Shechem, and thence to Bethel. He then went southward as far as Bethlehem, where Rachel died. Finally he settled in Hebron. Here Joseph grew up until he was seventeen, a well-trained, godly boy. Our lesson to-day tells us how he incurred the hatred of his brothers.

*Helps in Studying.*—1. *Stranger*—sojourner. 2. *Generations*—family history. *The sons of Bilhah*—Dan and Naphtali. *The sons of Zilpah*—Gad and Asher. *Their evil report*—the report of their evil doings. 3. *Israel loved Joseph*—because he was the son of his best-loved wife and of his old age. Benjamin was yet very young—only about one year old. *A coat of many colors*—either a long garment with sleeves and fringes, or one composed of pieces of various colors. 4. *Could not speak peaceably*—would not say, "Peace be to thee," the form of saying "good-morning" in those days. 5. *Joseph dreamed a dream*—his dream was prophetic, foretelling his future honor over his brothers. 10. *His father rebuked him*—Joseph's dream seemed lacking in due honor to his parents. *Observed the saying*—it made an impression on the father's mind.

**QUESTIONS.**

*Introductory.* What was the subject of the last lesson? Give the history between the last and this lesson? What were the names of Rachel's two sons? Title? Golden Text? Lesson Plan? Time? Place? Memory verses? Catechism?

I. *Joseph Loved by his Father.* vs. 1-3.—Where did Jacob live? How many sons had he? Why did Jacob love Joseph more than his other sons? Who was Joseph's mother? What other son had Rachel? What gift of love did Jacob give Joseph? How old was Joseph at this time?

II. *Joseph Hated by his Brothers.* v. 4.—How did Joseph's brothers feel towards him? Why did they hate him? How did they show their hatred?

III. *Joseph Envied for his Dreams.* vs. 5-11.—What was Joseph's first dream? What was the second? What events did these dreams foretell? Gen. 42 : 6, 9. How did they affect his brothers?

**LESSONS.**

1. The evil hate those who interfere with their evil ways.
2. The good should never countenance the evil by concealing it.
3. Family discord should be avoided : there can be no true home without love.
4. God's hand rules over the acts of men.