

# SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

The importance of this apparently trivial incident, and by no means creditable transaction, lies in the relation it has to the transfer from Esau to Jacob of the right to represent the covenant line. Esau never attempted to revoke the sale, but resigned himself to his destiny. The passage is full of practical instruction. Our teaching will group itself around two points—(1) The contrasted characters of the two brothers and (2) The manner in which we may imitate Esau's folly. The buyer was Jacob, a typical Jew. Timid, shrewd and weak of faith, yet of a deeply religious nature. He valued the covenant and its blessings. His trials wrought in him "the peaceful fruit of righteousness." From Jacob, "the supplanter," he rose to be Israel, "the Prince of God." Find out where your weakness lies. In some it is a habit of exaggeration, in others selfishness, bad temper, speaking saucily, laziness, dislike of certain duties, &c. Set yourself to overcome it whatever it is, and ask God to help you. The seller was Esau, reckless, self-indulgent, valuing only present comforts, and careless in regard to spiritual things. He might have been a worthy successor of the heroic Abraham had he not yielded to the control of his animal impulses. As it was he never became anything other than Edom, "the Red one." The man who bartered priceless privileges for a moment's gratification. Beware of imitating his folly. God has given you a birthright also. A birthright of character, of health, of privileges, of citizenship, of religion. Many are still willing to sell these things for a bowl of pottage. Impress upon your scholars the privilege conferred upon them in baptism. They have the same birthright as Esau sold. If they will not assume the duties and cherish the affections of God's children they are selling the birthright for whatever keeps them from becoming true Christians. (Note that I and J are the same letters).

## THE BUYER.

Jacob.  
Israel.

## THE SELLER.

Esau.  
Edom.

## THE BARGAIN.

Birthright.  
Bowl of pottage.

## NORMAL DRILL

based on the text-book, "The Sabbath School Teacher's Handbook; or, The Principles and Practice of teaching, with special reference to the Sabbath School," prepared by Principal Kirkland of the Toronto Normal School.

### THE ART OF TEACHING. (CHAPTER VI).

*Science* has for its object investigation of principles. It consists of general truths to be known.

*Art* has for its object the accomplishment of a given result by the best means. It consists largely in practical rules to be remembered.

*The Art of Teaching* consists in the judicious application of the Principles of Teaching. It is usually spoken of as a Method of Teaching.

*Def. of Method.* Method in general is the order which we voluntarily introduce into our thoughts, our acts, and our undertakings. Methods are to teachers themselves what teachers are to pupils.

*Methods of Teaching must conform to the three following Principles:*

- (1) To the special characteristics of the knowledge we are communicating.
- (2) To the laws of mental growth at different periods of life.
- (3) To the particular purpose of the instruction.