

## Lesson VI.

## JACOB DECEIVES HIS FATHER

November 10, 1918

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—Our lesson is more than forty years after the selling of the birthright by Esau. In the interval Esau has increased his unfitness to inherit the promises for the birthright and brought sorrow to his parents, by contracting marriages with heathen women. Isaac is an old man near the end of his life.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Speak ye truth each one with his neighbour.—Ephesians 4 : 25 (Rev. Ver.).

\*Memorize Matt. 25 : 37-39.

**THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Genesis 27 : 18-29.

18 And he came unto his father, and said, My father : and he said, Here am I ; who art thou, my son ?

19 And Ja'cob said unto his father, I am E'sau thy firstborn ; I have done according as thou badest me . arise, I pray thee, sit and eat of my venison, that thy soul may bless me.

20 And I'saac said unto his son, How is it that thou hast found it so quickly, my son ? And he said, Because the Lord thy God brought it to me.

21 And I'saac said unto Ja'cob, Come near, I pray thee, that I may feel thee, my son, whether thou be my very son E'sau or not.

22 And Ja'cob went near unto I'saac his father ; and he felt him, and said, The voice is Ja'cob's voice, but the hands are the hands of E'sau.

23 And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother E'sau's hands : so he blessed him.

24 And he said, Art thou my very son E'sau ? And

Revised Version.—I sent me good speed ; \* And God ; \* of ; \* peoples ; \* every one.

he said, I am.

25 And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat : and he brought him wine, and he drank.

26 And his father I'saac said unto him, Come near now, and kiss me, my son.

27 And he came near, and kissed him : and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the Lord hath blessed :

28 Therefore God gave thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine :

29 Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee : be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee : cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.

## HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M.—Jacob deceives his father, Gen. 27:18-29.

Th.—Esau weeps over his brother's deception, Gen. 27:30-45.

T.—Jacob taught to deceive, Gen. 27 : 1-10.

F.—Jacob suffering for deception, Gen. 37 : 29-38.

W.—Jacob prepares to deceive, Gen. 27:11-17.

S.—Punishment for deception, Acts 5 : 1-11.

S.—Christianity and truth, Eph. 4 : 20-32.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED

**I. JACOB'S LIE.**—18. And he came ; Jacob, pretending to be Esau. Isaac was over a hundred years old, and well nigh blind. Feeling the nearness of death, he proposed to bestow his blessing on Esau. He bade Esau go to the fields and get venison for a religious feast before the blessing was conferred.

Rebekah overheard Isaac. She immediately told Jacob to get two good kids and prepare them and come in to Isaac, pretending to be Esau. But Jacob saw a difficulty. He was smooth skinned. Esau was rough and hairy. But Rebekah put Esau's garments on Jacob and put soft silky goat skins on his hands and neck. Thus he came in while Esau was away getting venison. My father. Here was one weak point in the plot. He could not imitate Esau's voice. He said, Here am I ; meaning very much our "Yes." Who art thou. It is Esau's voice, Isaac expects to hear. This is not his.

19, 20. Jacob said, I am Esau. Jacob is ready to trade on his father's blindness as he did on his brother's weakness. Jacob's character is all in the raw and crude now. All we can say of him now is that he has

a stronger, not a better, nature than Esau. How . . . found it so quickly ; another weak point in the plot. But something had to be done before Esau's return. Esau's return will expose the deception, but the blessing once given was irrevocable. The Lord . . . brought it ; "sent me good speed." Ordinarily, it might take a

long time to get the venison, but God had helped in some unusual way, says Jacob. Jacob shows a quick wit and a dull conscience.

21-25. Come . . . that I may feel thee. Jacob's pious explanation does not allay Isaac's suspicion. He proposes the test of touch, which means so much to a blind man. Jacob's voice . . . hands of Esau. The deception of the hands covered with the skins is successful. The feel of the hands overcomes his suspicions regarding the voice. Discerned him not ; did not detect his deceit. Blessed him ; unconsciously confirming the dirty bargain of ch. 25 : 29-34, entitling Jacob to the headship of the family (v. 29 ; ch. 49 : 8) and to a double portion of the inheritance from his father, Deut. 21 : 15-17. Art thou my very son Esau ; a last appeal to Jacob's sense of honor and



ISAAC BLESSING JACOB

\* For the recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages in either Part of List IV., a Red Seal is added to the Diploma in Colors given for List III., and a Gold Seal for the verses of the other Part. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Bldg., Toronto.