

## Lesson IV.

## ISAAC AND REBEKAH

October 27, 1918

Genesis 24 : 57-67. Study Genesis, ch. 24. Scripture Memory Verses.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Let not mercy and truth forsake thee . . so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.—Proverbs 3 : 3, 4.

57 And they said, We will call the damsel, and enquire at her mouth.

58 And they called Rebek'ah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

59 And they sent away Rebek'ah their sister, and her nurse, and A'braham's servant, and his men.

60 And they blessed Rebek'ah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.

61 And Rebek'ah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man : and the servant took Rebek'ah, and went his way.

62 And Isaac came from the way of the well La'hai-roi ; for he dwelt in the south country.

**Revised Version**—Our sister ; ten thousands ; Beer-lahai-roi ; land of the South ; there were camels coming ; And she said ; Omit had ; and she took her veil ; the.**LESSON PLAN**

- I. The Decision, 57, 58.
- II. The Departure, 59-61.
- III. The Meeting, 62-67.

**HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

M.—Isaac and Rebekah, Gen. 24 : 57-67. T.—Institution of marriage, Gen. 2 : 18-24. W.—Duty of husbands and wives, Eph. 5 : 22-33. Th.—Divine regulation of marriage, 1 Cor. 7 : 19-17. F.—Christ and divorce, Matt. 19 : 3-9. S.—Jesus and the Samaritan woman, John. 4 : 5-19. S.—Noble womanhood, Prov. 31 : 10-31.

63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide : and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming.

64 And Rebek'ah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel.

65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master : therefore she took a veil, and covered herself.

66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebek'ah, and she became his wife ; and he loved her : and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

**Primary Catechism**—*Ques.* 119. What does God's word tell us about the spread of the gospel? *A.* God's word tells us that the gospel shall be preached in all the world before the end comes.**Shorter Catechism**—Review Questions 30-32.**Lesson Hymns**—Book of Praise : Memory Hymn—Primary, 509 ; Junior, 161, 138, 134, 320, 152.**Special Scripture Reading**—Matt. 5 : 1-12. (To be read responsively or in concert by the whole School.)**Lantern Slides**—For Lesson, B. 1028, Isaac and Rebekah. For Question on Missions, H.M. 237, An Indian Family, Western Plains. (Slides are obtained from the Presbyterian Lantern Slide Department, 96 Queen St. East, Toronto.)**THE LESSON EXPLAINED**

**Time and Place**—A little later than the events of the last lesson ; Beersheba ; Haran in Mesopotamia, the home of Rebekah, 500 miles northeast of Beersheba ; Beer-lahai-roi.

**Connecting Links**—Ch. 23 records the death of Sarah and her burial in the cave of Machpelah, in a field purchased by Abraham from Ephron, a Hittite living at Hebron. Ch. 24 contains one of the most beautiful stories in ancient literature. The whole chapter should be read. The story begins with Abraham's anxiety over the choosing of a wife for Isaac, now become a man. He makes his trusted servant (likely Eliezer of Damascus, ch. 15 : 2) swear to do his utmost to obtain a bride for Isaac from the land of Abraham's kinsmen, and sends him away, with a considerable retinue, on the important errand. Under divine guidance, the messenger is brought to the very place where the family of Nahor, Abraham's brother, lives. Here he is led to choose Rebekah, the grand niece of Abraham. Vs. 1-56.

**I. The Decision, 57, 58.**Vs. 57, 58. *They said ; the mother and*

brother of Rebekah, v. 55. *The damsel ; Rebekah. Inquire at her mouth ; consult her.* According to Eastern custom, a marriage contract is usually made by the parents or guardians of the bride, independently of her wishes. It may be that, in this instance, the final decision is left with Rebekah because of the distance she must travel from home. *I will go.* Rebekah shows herself to be a woman of strong and decided character, self-reliant and determined. She had proved her efficiency in vs. 43-46. "To draw water for ten camels (v. 10) is no easy task, for the camel is a great drinker." "She who undertakes it, must needs have good health, as well as boundless good nature." Her hospitality, her prudent care for animals, so large a portion of Eastern wealth, made her an ideal wife for a sheik like Isaac. At the same time we are to see in her ready consent the hand of the Lord.

**II. The Departure, 59-61.**Vs. 59-61. *They sent away . . their sister ; so called because her brother Laban had throughout taken the lead, Bethuel, Rebekah's*