

They are also an inspiration to others 19. Bethel—i. e. "House of God." From Gen. 12 : 8 we might infer that the place was so named in Abraham's day. Bethel and Luz seem to have been distinct (Josh. 16 : 2), but close together (Josh. 18 : 13). The writer of the book of Genesis uses the name which the descendants of Jacob preferred, and applies it to include Luz as well (Judges 1 : 23). Jacob may have slept under the shelter of the altar which Abraham built. 20-22. Jacob did not mean to make a bargain with God. All that he mentioned has already been promised to him. We should read "Since God has given me these gracious promises, I give myself to Him, and set up this stone as a memorial of my consecration." Here Jacob seems to take a step in advance of his predecessors. This is no ordinary vow referring to some special or occasional resolve. It is a spontaneous movement of the soul towards God. It is the grand and solemn expression of the soul's free, full and perpetual acceptance of the Lord to be its own God. It is the most frank and open utterance of newborn spiritual liberty from the heart of man that has yet appeared in the divine record (Murphy). Notice the four things that Jacob trusts God for; Presence, Protection, Provision, and Peaceful return. His desires in regard to earthly things are moderate, he seeks first the kingdom of God. Note the two things he pledges himself for, (1) He will honor God's house, (2) He will give one tenth to God's cause. We cannot give ourselves and withhold our gifts. Some one has cleverly said "personal consecration should be spelled ~~wise and~~ all consecration."

SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

Owing to the copious notes this week, we must leave teachers to fill up the outline for themselves.

S IN
brings
shame
sorrow
suffering

P ENITENCE
brings
pardon
peace
prosperity

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.—(Continued).

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.

Advantages of a good Method.

- (1) The teacher starting with a fixed purpose runs less risk of losing sight of it and missing his way.
- (2) Having carefully reflected on the means at his command, he is more likely to choose the best.
- (3) Since he is sure of the end in view and of the means of attaining it, depends only on himself to reach it as soon as possible.