

HOME STUDY LEAFLET.

LESSON 9.

MARCH 4th, 1894.

1st QUARTER.

Selling the Birthright. Gen. 25: 27-34.

GOLDEN TEXT: "The Life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment." Luke 12: 23.

COMMIT TO MEMORY verses 31-34. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL—78, 33, 94, 133.

PROVE THAT—Godless people make bad bargains. Isa. 52: 3.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

MONDAY.	TUESDAY.	WEDNESDAY.	THURSDAY.	FRIDAY.	SATURDAY.	SABBATH.
Gen. 25: 27-34	Gen. 27: 15-2	Gen. 27: 30-40	Heb. 12: 11-17	John 2: 12-17	Mark 8: 34-38	Mark 6: 25-34

To the Teacher.—Do not credit any Scholar with having prepared the lesson who does not at least try to answer the questions. Take the leaflet home and assign a value to each answer, announcing the result on the following Sabbath. Take, or send, the Leaflet to absent scholars.

Always bring your Bible and Shorter Catechism to the Sabbath School.

HELPS IN STUDYING.

INTRODUCTORY.—Abraham was dead and Isaac himself was now an old man with sons of his own. Their names were Jacob and Esau. They were twins and about 32 years old. God had told Rebekah, their mother, that the elder should serve the younger, and no doubt Jacob knew that in some way he would obtain the rights of the firstborn which Esau possessed. Had he left it all to God, the sad story in our lesson would never have been written. But he thought that he could manage the matter better than God, or he was impatient with waiting so long. Esau only lost what he was not worthy of having, but Jacob did a shameful thing when he made his famishing brother pay such a price for a bowl of pottage.

LESSON PLAN. I. The Parties to the Sale. vs. 27, 28. II. The Transaction. vs. 29-34.

I. THE PARTIES TO THE SALE. 27. How different from one another these two boys were. Our different tastes and talents were given to us that we might fit into different places in the world. Nobody is perfect, but everybody has some good points, and some bad traits. God calls us to cultivate our virtues and correct, by self-control, our faults. Esau could never have grown into a Jacob, but he might have become a much better Esau, and perhaps a grander man than Jacob. Esau was a cunning hunter—There was nothing wrong in that. Where would we get our furs, and many kinds of food if there were no hunters? But every occupation has its moral as well as physical dangers. The hunter's life was not the best one for a man like Esau. The business one likes best is not always the one he ought to follow. We live for a higher purpose than to please ourselves, or to make money. We live to become men and women who have made the most of the good abilities that God gave them, through the Holy Spirit's help. Jacob was a plain man—He was not a "perfect" man, but he had some qualities that Esau lacked. He really loved God and valued religion. A good man may sometimes do very mean things, but if, like Jacob, his whole life is an effort to conquer his weakness, we ought to respect him more than one who is naturally generous but disregards the claims of God and neglects his religious duties. We can't

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