

THE Teachers' Preparation Leaflet

LESSON 1.

APRIL 1st, 1894.

2nd QUARTER.

Jacob's Prevailing Prayer. Gen. 32: 9-12, 24-30.

GOLDEN TEXT: "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." Gen. 32: 26.

COMMIT TO MEMORY vs. 28-30. CHILDREN'S HYMNAL, 45, 150, 161, 103.

PROVE THAT—Earnest prayer prevails with God. Jas. 5: 16.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Quest. 95. To whom is baptism to be administered?

DAILY PORTIONS.

(The Selections of the International Bible Reading Association.)

| MONDAY. | TUESDAY. | WEDNESDAY. | THURSDAY. | FRIDAY. | SATURDAY. | SABBATH. |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Gen. 32: 9-12, 24-30 | Gen. 32: 1-8 | Gen. 32: 13-23 | Gen. 33: 1-11 | 2 Kings 19: 14-20, 32-35 | Luke 18: 1-8 | Ps. 34: 15-23 |

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

INTRODUCTORY.—After leaving Bethel Jacob continued his journey until he reached Haran. Here he remained for 21 years. Having no wealth with which to commend himself to Laban, he served him for seven years for his daughter Rachel, "and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her." Deceived by Laban, who foisted her sister Leah upon him, he served yet other seven years. Then he entered into an agreement to remain in charge of the flocks and herds on terms which, however changed by the jealousy or cupidity of Laban, always proved profitable to Jacob, for God blessed him, as he had promised. His success provoked the envy and hatred of Laban's sons, so that Jacob deemed it wisest to return to Canaan. He was also directed in a vision to do so. To avoid any unpleasantness with Laban he departed without saying farewell, a proceeding that made him appear in the wrong, and gave Laban a pretext for doing him harm. He pursued him with the intention no doubt of punishing Jacob in a way to enrich himself. God however warned him to desist from any such intention. Jacob's cleverness again came near doing him mischief. Again he was taught that God does not need the help of man's guile, and can protect those who try to obey him. After parting with Laban "the Angels of God met him." The place where this occurred was called Mahanaim, or, "the two hosts." Compare Ps. 91: 11; Heb. 1: 14; Ps. 34: 7; 2 Kings 6: 17. Sending a friendly message to his brother Esau he receives no reply, but his messengers inform him that Esau is coming to meet him and 400 armed men with him. Whether his intentions were hostile or not, we are not told, but there was good ground for the alarm felt by Jacob and his clan. Disposing his company in the wisest manner for their safety, he commends himself to God in the prayer with which our lesson opens. Date B. C. 1739. Jacob's age 98. The places named are not known with any degree of certainty. They were East of the sea of Galilee.

THE TEACHERS' PREPARATION LEAFLET is published weekly by the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee, Presbyterian Church in Canada, at 35 cents a year, or 25c. if four or more copies are sent to one person. Address Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, 107 Hazen Street, St. John, N. B. Editing Committee: Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, Jas. Turnbull and Principal Kirkland.