

Lesson I.

JACOB AND ESAU

April 6, 1913

Genesis 27 : 22-34. Study Genesis 25 : 27-34 ; 27 : 1-45—*Memory Verses, 33, 34.

Golden Text—The Lord is a God of judgment : blessed are all they that wait for him.
—Isaiah 30 : 18.

Who ? where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and he shall be blessed.

34 And when E'sau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, *even* me also, O my father.

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 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 give 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.

30 And it came to pass, as soon as I'saac had made an end of blessing Ja'cob, and Ja'cob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of I'saac his father, that E'sau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 And he also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that thy soul may bless me.

32 And I'saac his father said unto him, Who art thou ? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn E'sau.

33 And I'saac trembled very exceedingly, and said, And I have eaten of all before thou : camest, and

THE LESSON RETOLD

Two weeks ago our Lesson told us about the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah. Now they had two sons, Esau and Jacob. When the boys grew up, Esau became a hunter, while Jacob took care of his father's sheep. When Isaac had grown very old, and knew that he must soon die, he called Esau, who was the eldest, and said to him : "Take your bow and arrows, and go out and get some venison to make a savory stew, and when you bring it to me to eat, I will bless you before I die."

When Esau had gone to do his father's bidding, Rebekah, who loved her son Jacob best and wished him to get his father's blessing, called the lad to her and persuaded him to deceive his father by making him think that he was Esau. First, she took a kid or young goat, and made a stew that tasted like venison ; then she dressed Jacob in his brother's clothes, binding pieces of kid skin

on his hands and neck to resemble Esau's hairy skin, and sent him in to his father. Isaac was now very old and blind, so, when Jacob came in and said, "I am Esau," Isaac could not see whether it was Esau or not. But he could not understand how Esau could have returned so soon. "How did you find the venison so quickly, my son ?" he asked.

Then Jacob told a very wicked lie. He said, "The Lord thy God brought it to me." Still Isaac was not sure. He reached out his hand and felt all over the lad and said : "The voice sounds like Jacob's, but these are Esau's hands. Art thou my very son Esau ?" And Jacob answered, "I am." "Then bring me the venison that I may eat of it," said Isaac. After he had eaten, he said : "Let God give thee plenty of rain for thy fields and much grain and wine. Let

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.