

- 10 Jacob left Beer-sheba, and set out for Haran.
 וַיֵּצֵא יַעֲקֹב מִבְּעֵר שֶׁבַע וַיֵּלֶךְ תִּרְהַנָּה:
- 11 He came upon a certain place and stopped there for the night, for the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of that place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.
 וַיָּקֻץ מֵאַבְנֵי הַמָּקוֹם וַיִּשָּׁם מִרְאשׁוֹתָיו וַיִּשְׁכַּב בַּמָּקוֹם הַהוּא: וַיִּפְנֶעַ בַּמָּקוֹם וַיִּלָּךְ שָׁם כִּי־בָא הַשָּׁמֶשׁ
- 12 He had a dream; a stairway*stairway Or “ramp”; others “ladder.” Heb. sullam. was set on the ground and its top reached to the sky, and messengers of God were going up and down on it.
 וַיֵּרָאשׁוּ מַנְיַע הַשָּׁמַיִמָה וְהִנֵּה מֵלָאכִי אֱלֹהִים עֲלִים וִירְדִים בּוֹ: וַיַּחְלֹם וְהִנֵּה סֹלֶם מֻצָּב אֶרֶצָה
- 13 And standing beside him was יהוה, who said, “I am יהוה, the God of your father Abraham’s [house] and the God of Isaac’s [house]: the ground on which you are lying I will assign to you and to your offspring.
 וְאַלְהֵי יִצְחָק הָאֵרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲתָה שֹׁכֵב עָלֶיהָ לָךְ אֲתֵנָּה וְלִזְרַעְךָ: וְהִנֵּה יְהוָה נֹצֵב עָלֶיךָ וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֶיךָ אַבְרָהָם אִשְׁחָא:
- 14 Your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you and your descendants.
 וַיְקַדְמָה וַצִּפְנָה וַנִּגְבְּה וַנִּבְרַכּוּ בְךָ כְּלִמְשַׁפְחוֹת הָאָדָמָה וּבִזְרַעְךָ: וְהָיָה זֶרְעֲךָ כַּעֲפֹר הָאֲרֶץ וַיִּרְצֶנָּה יָמָה
- 15 Remember, I am with you: I will protect you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”
 הַזֹּאת כִּי לֹא אֶעֱזֹבְךָ עַד אֲשֶׁר אִסְעִשִׁיתִי אֶת אֶשְׁרֵי־בְרִיתִי לָךְ: אֲנֹכִי עִמָּךְ וְשִׁמְרוּתֶיךָ בְּכָל אֶשְׁרֵי־תֵלֶךְ וְהִשְׁבַּתִּיךָ אֶל־הָאָדָמָה וְהִנֵּה
- 16 Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely יהוה is present in this place, and I did not know it!”
 מִשְׁנֵתוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר אֲכֹן יֵשׁ יְהוָה בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה וָאֲנֹכִי לֹא יָדַעְתִּי: וַיִּיקָץ יַעֲקֹב
- 17 Shaken, he said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven.”
 הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה אֵין זֶה כִּי אִסְרֵי־בֵית אֱלֹהִים זֶה שַׁעַר הַשָּׁמַיִם: וַיִּירָא וַיֹּאמֶר מִה־נִּירָא
- 18 Early in the morning, Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.
 אֶשְׁרֵשָׁם מִרְאשׁוֹתָיו וַיִּשָּׁם אֲתָה מִצְבָּה וַיִּצָּק שָׁמֹן עַל־רֹאשָׁהּ: וַיִּשְׁלֹם יַעֲקֹב בְּבֹקֶר וַיִּקַּח אֶת־הָאֶבֶן
- 19 He named that site Bethel;*Bethel I.e., “house of God.” but previously the name of the city had been Luz.
 אֶת־שְׁם־הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא בֵּית־אֵל וְאוֹלָם לֹזו שֵׁם־הָעִיר לְרֹאשָׁנָה: וַיִּקְרָא
- 20 Jacob then made a vow, saying, “If God remains with me, protecting me on this journey that I am making, and giving me bread to eat and clothing to wear,
 בְּהֶרֶךְ הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי הוֹלֵךְ וְנִתְּרֶלִי לֶחֶם לֶאֱכֹל וּבִגְדִי לִלְבָּשׁ: וַיִּדָּר יַעֲקֹב נֶדֶר לֵאמֹר אִם־יִהְיֶה אֱלֹהִים עִמָּדִי וְשָׁמְרֵנִי
- 21 and I return safe to my father’s house— יהוה shall be my God.
 וְשִׁבַּתִּי בְּשָׁלוֹם אֶל־בֵּית אָבִי וְהָיָה יְהוָה לִי לֵאלֹהִים:

22 And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, shall be God's abode; and of all that You give me, I will set aside a tithe for You."

67

1 Jacob resumed his journey*and came to the land of the Easterners.
2 Lit, "lifted up his feet," and came to the land of the Easterners.
3 There before his eyes was a well in the open. Three flocks of sheep were lying beside it, for the flocks were watered from that well. The stone on the mouth of the well was large.
4 When all the flocks were gathered there, the stone would be rolled from the mouth of the well and the sheep watered; then the stone would be put back in its place on the mouth of the well.
5 Jacob said to them, "My friends, where are you from?" And they said, "We are from Haran."
6 He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" And they said, "Yes, we do."
7 He continued, "Is he well?" They answered, "Yes, he is; and there is his daughter Rachel, coming with the flock."
8 He said, "It is still broad daylight, too early to round up the animals; water the flock and take them to pasture."
9 But they said, "We cannot, until all the flocks are rounded up; then the stone is rolled off the mouth of the well and we water the sheep."
10 While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's flock—for she was its shepherd.
11 And when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of his uncle*uncle Lit, "mother's brother," Laban, and the flock of his uncle Laban, Jacob went up and rolled the stone off the mouth of the well, and watered the flock of his uncle Laban.
12 Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and broke into tears, and told her father.
13 Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father.

ויביאֵהוּ אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ ויִסְפֹּר לָלֶבֶן אֶת־כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:
 אֶת־שְׁמֵעִי יַעֲקֹב בְּרָאָהוּ ויִרְצֵן לַקְרָאתוֹ ויַחְבְּקֵהוּ ויִנְשָׁק־לוֹ
 ויֵּהָאֵל כְּשֹׁמֵעַ לָבָן
 וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ לָבָן אֵךְ עֲצָמִי וּבִשְׁרִי אֵתָּה נִשְׁבַּע עִמּוֹ חֹדֶשׁ יָמִים:
 לַיָּעֲקֹב הַכִּי־יָאֲחִי אֵתָּה נִשְׁבַּרְתָּנִי חֲגָם הַגִּידָה לִּי מִדֶּרֶם־קֶרֶתָּךְ:
 וַיֹּאמֶר לָבָן
 וּלְלָבָן שְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת שָׁם הִגְדִּילָה לֹאֵה וְשָׁם הִקְטַנָּה רַחֵל:
 וַעֲיִנֵּי לֹאֵה רַכּוֹת וְרַחֵל הָיְתָה יָפֶת־תֹּאֵר וַיִּפֹּת מִרְאֶה:
 יַעֲקֹב אֶת־רַחֵל וַיֹּאמֶר אֶעֱבֹדְךָ שִׁבְעַ שָׁנִים בְּרַחֵל בַּתָּךְ הִקְטַנָּה:
 וַיֹּאָבֶר
 לָבָן טוֹב תְּתִי אֵתָּה לָךְ מִתְּתִי אֵתָּה לְאִישׁ אֲחֵר שָׁבָה עִמָּדִי:
 וַיֹּאמֶר
 בְּרַחֵל שִׁבְעַ שָׁנִים וַיְהִי וַיַּעֲבֹד כִּי־יָמִים אַחֲזִיִּים בָּאֶהְבְּתָהּ אֵתָּה:
 וַיַּעֲבֹד יַעֲקֹב
 יַעֲקֹב אֶל־לָבָן הִבָּה אֶת־אִשְׁתּוֹ כִּי מָלְאוּ יָמֶי וַאֲבֹאֶה אֵלֶיהָ:
 וַיֹּאמֶר
 וַיֵּאסֹף לָבָן אֶת־כָּל־אֲנָשֵׁי הַמָּקוֹם וַיָּעֵשׂ מִשְׁתֵּה:
 וַיְהִי בַעֲרֵב וַיִּקַּח אֶת־לֹאֵה בְתוֹ וַיָּבֵא אֵתָּה אֵלָיו וַיָּבֵא אֵלֶיהָ:
 וַיִּתֵּן לָבָן לָהּ אֶת־זִלְפָּה שִׁפְחָתָהּ לְלֹאֵה בְתוֹ שִׁפְחָתָה:
 מִדֶּ־זֹאת עָשִׂיתָ לִּי הֲלֹא בְּרַחֵל עֲבַדְתִּי עִמָּךְ וְלָמָּה רַמִּיתָנִי:
 וַיְהִי בַבֹּקֶר וַהֲגִידָהּוּא לֹאֵה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־לָבָן
 לָבָן לֹא־עָשָׂה כֵּן בַּמָּקוֹמִנִי לְתֵת הַצִּעִירָהּ לִפְנֵי הַבְּכִירָה:
 וַיֹּאמֶר
 גַּם־אֵת־זֹאת בְּעִבְדָּהּ אֲשֶׁר תַּעֲבֹד עִמָּדִי עוֹד שִׁבְע־שָׁנִים אַחֲרֹתָ:
 מִלֵּא שִׁבְעַ זֹאת וְנִתְּנָה לָךְ

נָשִׁים עַל־בְּנֹתַי אֵין אִישׁ עִמָּנוּ רָאֵה אֱלֹהִים עַד בֵּינִי וּבֵינָךְ:
 אִם־תַּעֲנֶה אֶת־בְּנֹתַי וְאִם־תִּחַק
 לַיָּעֲקֹב הִנֵּה י הִגַּל הָיָה וְהִנֵּה הַמִּצְבָּה אֲשֶׁר יָרִיתִי בֵּינִי וּבֵינָךְ:
 וַיֹּאמֶר לָבָן
 לֹא־תַעֲבֹר אֵלַי אֶת־הִגַּל הַזֶּה וְאֶת־הַמִּצְבָּה הַזֹּאת לְרַעְיָה:
 וְעֵדָה הַמִּצְבָּה אִם־אֵנִי לֹא־אֶעֱבֹר אֶלֶיךָ אֶת־הִגַּל הַזֶּה וְאִם־אֵתָּה
 עַד הִגַּל הַזֶּה
 יִשְׁפֹּטוּ בִּילִינוּ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבִיהֶם וַיִּשְׁבַּע יַעֲקֹב בַּפֹּחַד אָבִיו יִצְחָק:
 אֱלֹהֵי אֲבִרְהָם וְאֱלֹהֵי נְחוֹר
 זָבַח בָּהָר וַיִּקְרָא לְאֲחֵיו לְאָכְל־לֶחֶם וַיֵּאכְלוּ לֶחֶם וַיִּלְּנוּ בָהָר:
 וַיִּזְבַּח יַעֲקֹב
 If you ill-treat my daughters or take other wives besides my daughters—though no one else*one else Or “participant,” i.e., one of the witnesses to this agreement, who is thereby authorized to intervene if it is violated; cf. Kimhi, and see the Dictionary under ‘ish. be about, remember, it is God who will be witness between you and me.”
 And Laban said to Jacob, “Here is this mound and here the pillar which I have set up between you and me:
 this mound shall be witness and this pillar shall be witness that I am not to cross to you past this mound, and that you are not to cross to me past this mound and this pillar, with hostile intent.
 May the God of Abraham’s [house] and the god of Nahor’s [house]—their ancestral deities—“judge between us.” And Jacob swore by the Fear*Fear Meaning of Heb. paad uncertain. of his father Isaac’s [house].
 Jacob then offered up a sacrifice on the Height, and invited his kinsmen to partake of the meal. After the meal, they spent the night on the Height.

32

1 Early in the morning, Laban kissed his sons and daughters*sons and daughters See note at 31.28. and bade them good-by; then Laban left on his journey homeward.
 2 Jacob went on his way, and messengers of God encountered him.
 3 When he saw them, Jacob said, “This is God’s camp.” So he named that place Mahanaim.*Mahanaim Connected with Heb. maaneh “camp.”
 וַיִּנְשָׁק לְבָנָיו וּלְבָנוֹתָיו וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתָהֶם וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיִּשָּׁב לָבָן לַמָּקוֹם:
 וַיִּשְׁלַם לָבָן בַּבֹּקֶר
 וַיַּעֲקֹב הָלַךְ לְדַרְכּוֹ וַיִּפְגְּעוּ־בּוּ מַלְאָכֵי אֱלֹהִים:
 רָאָם מַחֲנֶה אֱלֹהִים זֶה וַיִּקְרָא שְׁם־הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא מַחֲנֶיִם:
 וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב כִּאֲשֶׁר

4 So she gave him her maid Bilhah as concubine, and Jacob cohabited with her.

5 Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son.

6 And Rachel said, "God has vindicated me;"has vindicated me Heb. dananni, connected with "Dan." indeed, [God] has heeded my plea and given me a son." Therefore she named him Dan.

7 Rachel's maid Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

8 And Rachel said, "A fateful contest I waged*A fateful contest I waged Heb. naphtule ... naphtalti, connected with "Naphtali." Lit. "A contest of God...." with my sister; yes, and I have prevailed." So she named him Naphtali.

9 When Leah saw that she had stopped bearing children, she took her maid Zilpah and gave her to Jacob as concubine.

10 And when Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a son,

11 Leah said, "What luck!"*What luck! So the kethib, which reads begad; the qere reads ba' gad "luck has come"; connected with "Gad." So she named him Gad.

12 When Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a second son,

13 Leah declared, "What fortune!"*What fortune! Heb. be'oshri, connected with "Asher." meaning, "Women will deem me fortunate." So she named him Asher.

14 Once, at the time of the wheat harvest, Reuben came upon some mandrakes in the field and brought them to his mother Leah. Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me some of your son's mandrakes."

15 But she said to her, "Was it not enough for you to take away my husband, that you would also take my son's mandrakes?" Rachel replied, "I promise, he shall lie with you tonight, in return for your son's mandrakes."

16 When Jacob came home from the field in the evening, Leah went out to meet him and said, "You are to sleep with me, for I have hired you with my son's mandrakes." And he lay with her that night.

17 God heeded Leah, and she conceived and bore him a fifth son.

ותן־לו את־בלהה שפחתה לאשה ויבא אליה יעקב:

ותהר בלהה ותלד לי־עקב בן:

הִנְנִי אֱלֹהִים וְגַם שָׁמַע בְּקוֹלִי וַיִּתְּרֵלִי בֶן עָלֵינוּ קִרְאָה שְׁמוֹ דָּן: וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל

ותהר עוד ותלד בלהה שפחת רחל בן שני לי־עקב:

אֱלֹהִים | נִפְתַּלְתִּי עִם־אֲחֹתִי גַם־נִכְלַתִּי וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ נִפְתָּלִי: וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל נִפְתּוּלִי

מִלְּקֵת וַתִּקַּח אֶת־זִלְפָּה שִׁפְחָתָהּ וַתִּתֵּן אוֹתָהּ לְיַעֲקֹב לְאִשָּׁה: וַתֵּרָא לָאָה כִּי עִמָּהּ

וַתֵּלֶד זֶלְפָּה שִׁפְחַת לָאָה בֶּן שְׁנֵי לְיַעֲקֹב בן:

וַתֹּאמֶר לָאָה (בְּגַד) [בָּגַד] וַתִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ גָּד:

וַתֵּלֶד זֶלְפָּה שִׁפְחַת לָאָה בֶּן שְׁנֵי לְיַעֲקֹב:

וַתֹּאמֶר לָאָה בָּאֲשֵׁרִי כִּי אֲשֶׁרֻנִּי בָנוֹת וַתִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר:

אֶל־לָאָה אָמַן וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל אֶל־לָאָה תִּגְרִינָא לִי מִדִּוּדָּאִי בְּנָה: וַלֶּךְ רָאוּבֵן בִּימֵי קִצְר־חַטָּיִם וַיִּמְצָא דִּוְדָאִים בַּשָּׂדֶה וַיָּבֵא אוֹתָם

בְּנֵי וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל לָכֵן יִשְׁקֹב עִמָּךְ הַלַּיְלָה תַּחַת דִּוּדָּאִי בְּנָה: וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ הִמָּעַט קַחְתְּךָ אֶת־אִישִׁי וַלְקַחְתְּ גַּם אֶת־דִּוּדָּאִי

תְּבוֹא כִּי שָׁכַר שְׁכַרְתִּיךָ בְּדִוּדָּאִי בְנֵי וַיִּשְׁקֹב עִמָּה בַּלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה: וַיָּבֵא יַעֲקֹב מִדֶּה־שְׂדֵה בַּעֲלָם וַתֵּצֵא לָאָה לְקִרְאָתוֹ וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלַי

וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹהִים אֶל־לָאָה וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּלֶד לְיַעֲקֹב בֶּן חַמִּישִׁי:

28 You did not even let me kiss my sons and daughters"sons and daughters So NJPS; Heb. levanai we-livnotai, a stock phrase (see, e.g., 46.15; 1 Sam. 30.6; Neh. 5.5) that means "progeny," thus including grandchildren. good-bye! It was a foolish thing for you to do.

29 I have it in my power to do you harm; but the God of your father's [house] said to me last night, 'Beware of attempting anything with Jacob, good or bad.'

30 Very well, you had to leave because you were longing for your father's house; but why did you steal my gods?"

31 Jacob answered Laban, saying, "I was afraid because I thought you would take your daughters from me by force.

32 But anyone with whom you find your gods shall not remain alive! In the presence of our kin, point out what I have of yours and take it." Jacob, of course, did not know that Rachel had stolen them.

33 So Laban went into Jacob's tent and Leah's tent and the tents of the two maidservants; but he did not find them. Leaving Leah's tent, he entered Rachel's tent.

34 Rachel, meanwhile, had taken the idols and placed them in the camel cushion and sat on them; and Laban rummaged through the tent without finding them.

35 For she said to her father, "Let not my lord take it amiss that I cannot rise before you, for I am in a womanly way." Thus he searched, but could not find the household idols.

36 Now Jacob became incensed and took up his grievance with Laban. Jacob spoke up and said to Laban, "What is my crime, what is my guilt that you should pursue me?"

37 You rummaged through all my things; what have you found of all your household objects? Set it here, before my kin and yours, and let them decide between us two.

38 "These twenty years I have spent in your service, your ewes and she-goats never miscarried, nor did I feast on rams from your flock.

וְלֹא נָטַשְׁתִּי לְנִשְׁקִי לְבָנֵי וּלְבָנוֹתֶי עֲתָה הִסְקַלְתָּ עָשׂוֹ:

אֲמַר אֵלַי לֹא־אֶמְרָה הַשֹּׁמֵר לָךְ מִדְּבַר עִם־יַעֲקֹב מְטוֹב עֲדִירָעִי: יִשְׁלָאֵל יְיָ לְעִשׂוֹת עִמָּכֶם רַע וְאֵלֹהֵי אֲבִיכֶם אָמֵשׁ:

הִלַּכְתָּ כִּי־נִכְסְפָה נִכְסַּפְתָּה לְבֵית אָבִיךָ לְמָה גָּבַתְתָּ אֶת־אֱלֹהֵי: וְעֲתָה הִלַּךְ

וַיֹּאמֶר לְלָבָן כִּי יִרְאֵתִי כִּי אִמְרָתִי פָרַתְגָּלוּל אֶת־בָּנוֹתֶיךָ מֵעַמִּי: וַיַּעַן יַעֲקֹב

הַכָּרִלְךָ מָה עִמָּדִי וַיַּחְזִילְךָ וְלֹא־יָדַע יַעֲקֹב כִּי רָחֵל גָּבַתְתָּ: עַם אֲשֶׁר תִּמְצָא אֶת־אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא יִחְיֶה נֶגְדִּי אֲחִינוּ

שְׁתֵּי הָאִמָּהוֹת וְלֹא מִצָּא וַיֵּצֵא מֵאֶחָל לָאָה וַיָּבֵא בְּאֶחָל רָחֵל: וַיָּבֵא לָבָן בְּאֶחָל יַעֲקֹב | וּבְאֶחָל לָאָה וּבְאֶחָל

בְּכָר הַגָּמֶל וַתִּשָּׁב עֲלֵיהֶם וַיִּמָּשֶׁשׁ לָבָן אֶת־כְּלִי־הָאֶחָל וְלֹא מִצָּא: וַיִּחַל לְקַחְתָּהּ אֶת־הַתְּרָפִים וַתִּשְׁמַעַם

לְקוֹם מִפְּלִיךָ כִּי־דָרַךְ נָשִׁים לִי וַיַּחְפֹּשׂ וְלֹא מִצָּא אֶת־הַתְּרָפִים: וַתֹּאמֶר אֶל־אֲבִיתִי אֶל־יָחִיד בְּעִינֵי אֲדָנִי כִּי לֹא אוֹכֵל

וַיַּעַן יַעֲקֹב וַיֹּאמֶר לְלָבָן מִדֶּ־פִשְׁעִי מָה חֲטָאתִי כִּי דִלַּקְתָּ אֹחֲרִי: וַיַּחֲזֵר לְיַעֲקֹב וַיִּרְבֵּב בְּלָבָן

מִכָּל כְּלִי־בֵיתְךָ שֵׁים לָהּ נֶגְדִּי אֲתִי וְאֲתִיךָ וַיִּקְיַחוּ בֵּין שְׁנֵינוּ: כִּי־מִשְׁשֹׁת אֶת־כְּלִי־כֵלִי מִדֶּ־מִּצָּאתִי

אֲנֹכִי עִמָּךְ רָחֵלְךָ וְעֵזְרִיךָ לֹא שָׁכַלְתִּי וְאִילִּי צִאֲנֶךָ לֹא אֲכַלְתִּי: זֶה עֲשָׂוִים שָׁנָה

18 And Leah said, "God has given me my reward* my reward Heb. sekhar, connected with "Issachar." for having given my maid to my husband." So she named him Issachar.

19 When Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son,

20 Leah said, "God has given me a choice gift*has given me a choice gift Heb. zebadani ... zebad. this time my husband will exalt me," will exalt me Heb. yizbelet; others "will dwell with me." for I have borne him six sons." So she named him Zebulun.

21 Last, she bore him a daughter, and named her Dinah.

22 Now God remembered Rachel; God heeded her and opened her womb.

23 She conceived and bore a son, and said, "God has taken away*has taken away Heb. asaph, connected with "Joseph." my disgrace."

24 So she named him Joseph, which is to say, "May I add*add Heb. yoseph, connected with "Joseph." another son for me."

25 After Rachel had borne Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Give me leave to go back to my own homeland.

26 Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served you, that I may go; for well you know what services I have rendered you."

27 But Laban said to him, "If you will indulge me, if you will indulge me Lit. "If I have found favor in your eyes." I have learned by divination that "I have blessed me on your account."

28 And he continued, "Name the wages due from me, and I will pay you."

29 But he said, "You know well how I have served you and how your livestock has fared with me.

30 For the little you had before I came has grown to much, since "I have blessed you wherever I turned. And now, when shall I make provision for my own household?"

31 He said, "What shall I pay you?" And Jacob said, "Pay me nothing! If you will do this thing for me, I will again pasture and keep your flocks:

14 Then Rachel and Leah answered him, saying, "Have we still a share in the inheritance of our father's house?"

15 Surely, he regards us as outsiders, now that he has sold us and has used up our purchase price. Truly, all the wealth that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children. Now then, do just as God has told you."

17 Thereupon Jacob put his children and wives on camels;

18 and he drove off all his livestock and all the wealth that he had amassed, the livestock in his possession that he had acquired in Paddan-araram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.

19 Meanwhile Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father's household idols.

20 Jacob kept Laban the Aramean in the dark,*kept Laban the Aramean in the dark Lit. "stole the mind of Laban the Aramean"; similarly in v. 26, not telling him that he was fleeing,

21 and fled with all that he had. Soon he was across the Euphrates and heading toward the hill country of Gilead.

22 On the third day, Laban was told that Jacob had fled.

23 So he took his kinsmen with him and pursued him a distance of seven days, catching up with him in the hill country of Gilead.

24 But God appeared to Laban the Aramean in a dream by night and said to him, "Beware of attempting anything with Jacob, good or bad."

25 Laban overtook Jacob. Jacob had pitched his tent on the Heights, and Laban with his kinsmen encamped in the hill country of Gilead.

26 And Laban said to Jacob, "What did you mean by keeping me in the dark and carrying off my daughters like captives of the sword?"

27 Why did you flee in secrecy and mislead me and not tell me? I would have sent you off with festive music, with timbrel and lyre.

14 Then Rachel and Leah answered him, saying, "Have we still a share in the inheritance of our father's house?"

15 Surely, he regards us as outsiders, now that he has sold us and has used up our purchase price. Truly, all the wealth that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children. Now then, do just as God has told you."

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27 Why did you flee in secrecy and mislead me and not tell me? I would have sent you off with festive music, with timbrel and lyre.

- וטלוא וכל־שהיחום בכשלים וטלוא ונקד בעזים והזה שקרי:
אָעבר בקל־צאנן היום הָרַר משם קל־שה | נקד
- אָשר־איננו נקד וטלוא בעזים וחום בכשלים נגוב הוא אחי:
וְעַתָּה־כִּי צִדְקָתִי בְּיוֹם מִתָּר כִּי־תָבוֹא עַל־שֹׁכְרִי לִפְנֵיךָ כֹּל
- וַיֹּאמֶר לָבוֹן הוּא לִי יְהִי כְדָבָרְךָ:
- וְהִטְלֹאת כֹּל אֲשֶׁר־לָבֹן בּוֹ וְכֹל־חֹמֶם בְּכֶשֶׁבִּים וַיְתֵן בִּיד־בָּנָיו:
הָהוּא אֶת־הַתְּיָשִׁים הָעֲקָרִים וְהַטְּלָאִים וְאֵת כֹּל־הַעֲזִים הַנִּקְדָּוֹת וַיִּסֶּר בֵּינֵם
- שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים בֵּינוּ וּבֵין יַעֲקֹב וַיַּעֲקֹב רָעָה אֶת־צֹאן לָבוֹן הַנּוֹתָרָה:
וַיֵּשֶׁם דֶּרֶךְ
- וַיַּפְצֵל בָּהֶן פְּצָלוֹת לְבָלוֹת מִחֲשׂוֹף הַלָּבֹן אֲשֶׁר עַל־הַמִּקְלוֹת:
וַיִּקְחֵי־לֹו יַעֲקֹב מִקָּל לְבָנָהּ לֹחַ וְלֹחַ וְעֶרְמוֹן
- אֲשֶׁר תָּבֹאן הַצֹּאן לִשְׁתוֹת לִנְכַח הַצֹּאן וַיַּחֲמֶנָה בְּבֹאֵן לִשְׁתוֹת:
וַיִּצַּג אֶת־הַמִּקְלוֹת אֲשֶׁר פָּצַל בְּרֹהֲטִים בְּשִׁקְתוֹת הַמִּים
- וַיַּחֲמוּ הַצֹּאן אֶל־הַמִּקְלוֹת וַתִּלְדֵּן הַצֹּאן עֲקָרִים נִקְדִּים וְטָלָאִים:
- בָּצָאן לָבוֹן וַיִּשְׁתִּי־לוֹ עֲדָרִים לְבָדוֹ וְלֹא שׁוֹתִם עַל־צֹאן לָבוֹן:
וְהַכְּשָׁבִים הַפָּרִידִי יַעֲקֹב וַיִּתֵּן פָּנָיו הַצֹּאן אֶל־עֵקֶד וְכֹל־חֹמֶם
- יַעֲקֹב אֶת־הַמִּקְלוֹת לַעֲיִנִי הַצֹּאן בְּרֹהֲטִים לִיַּחֲמֶנָה בַּמִּקְלוֹת:
וְהָיָה בְּכֹל־יָחֵם הַצֹּאן הַמִּקְשׁוֹרֹת וְשֵׁם
- הַצֹּאן לֹא יִשִּׁים וְהָיָה הַעֲטָפִים לָלָבוֹן וְהַקְשָׁרִים לַיַּעֲקֹב:
וּבַהֲעֲטִירָה
- מֵאֵד נִהְיִילוֹ צֹאן רְבוֹת וּשְׁפָחוֹת וְעֲבָדִים וְגַמְלִים וְחֲמֹרִים:
וַיִּפְרֹץ הָאִישׁ מֵאֵד
- 32 let me pass through your whole flock today, removing from there every speckled and spotted animal—every dark-colored sheep and every spotted and speckled goat. Such shall be my wages.
- 33 In the future when you go over my wages, let my honesty toward you testify for me: if there are among my goats any that are not speckled or spotted or any sheep that are not dark-colored, they got there by theft.”
- 34 And Laban said, “Very well, let it be as you say.”
- 35 But that same day he removed the streaked and spotted he-goats and all the speckled and spotted she-goats—every one that had white on it—and all the dark-colored sheep, and left them in the charge of his sons.
- 36 And he put a distance of three days’ journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob was pasturing the rest of Laban’s flock.
- 37 Jacob then got fresh shoots of poplar, and of almond and plane, and peeled white stripes in them, laying bare the white of the shoots.
- 38 The rods that he had peeled he set up in front of the goats*goats Lit. “flocks.” in the troughs, the water receptacles, that the goats came to drink from. Their mating occurred when they came to drink,
- 39 and since the goats mated by the rods, the goats brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted young.
- 40 But Jacob dealt separately with the sheep; he made these animals face the streaked or wholly dark-colored animals in Laban’s flock. And so he produced special flocks for himself, which he did not put with Laban’s flocks.
- 41 Moreover, when the sturdier*sturdier Or “early-breeding.” animals were mating, Jacob would place the rods in the troughs, in full view of the animals, so that they mated by the rods;
- 42 but with the feebler*feebler Or “late-breeding.” animals he would not place them there. Thus the feeble*feeble Cf. previous note. ones went to Laban and the sturdy to Jacob.
- 43 So the man grew exceedingly prosperous, and came to own large flocks, maidservants and menservants, camels and asses.

- אֵת כֹּל־אֲשֶׁר לֵאבִינוּ וּמֵאֲשֶׁר לֵאבִינֵנוּ עֲשֵׂה אֵת כֹּל־הַכְּבֵד הַזֶּה:
וַיִּשְׁמַע אֶת־דְּבָרִי בְּנִי־לָבֹן לֵאמֹר לָקֹחַ יַעֲקֹב
- וַיֵּרָא יַעֲקֹב אֶת־פָּנָיו לָבוֹן וְהָיָה עִמּוֹ כְּתַמּוֹל שְׁלֹשׁוֹם:
- וְהָיָה אֵל־יַעֲקֹב שׁוֹב אֶל־אֶרֶץ אֲבוֹתָיו וּלְמִוְלַדְתָּךְ וְאֵהְיָה עִמָּךְ:
וַיֹּאמֶר
- וַיִּשְׁלַח יַעֲקֹב וַיִּקְרָא לְרַחֵל וּלְלֵאָה הַשָּׂדֶה אֶל־צֹאנֹו:
- אָבִיכֶן כִּי־אֵינֶנּוּ אֵלַי כְּתַמּוֹל שְׁלֹשׁוֹם וְאֵלֹהֵי אָבִי הֵיָה עִמָּךְ:
וַיֹּאמֶר לָלוֹן רֵאָה אֲנֹכִי אֶת־פָּנָי
- וְאֵתָנָה יִדְעָתָן כִּי בְּכֹל־כְּחָלִי עֲבַדְתִּי אֶת־אָבִיכֶן:
- אֶת־מִשְׁכָּרְתִּי עֲשֵׂתָ מִזִּים וְלֹא־נָתַנּוּ אֱלֹהִים לְהֹרֶעַ עַמָּךְ:
וְאָבִיכֶן הִתֵּל בִּי וַתַּחֲלֶךְ
- וְאִם־יָכָה יֹאמֶר עֲקָרִים יִהְיֶה שְׁכָרְךָ וַיִּלְדוּ כֹל־הַצֹּאן עֲקָרִים:
אִם־יָכָה יֹאמֶר נִקְדִּים יִהְיֶה שְׁכָרְךָ וַיִּלְדוּ כֹל־הַצֹּאן נִקְדִּים
- וַיִּצַּל אֱלֹהִים אֶת־מִקְנֶה אָבִיכֶם וַיִּתְּרֵלִי:
- בְּחֵלוֹם וְהָיָה הַעֲתִידִים הָעֲלִים עַל־הַצֹּאן עֲקָרִים נִקְדִּים וּבְרֹהֲטִים:
וַיְהִי בַּעַת יָתֵם הַצֹּאן וְאִשָּׂא עֵינֵי וְאָרָה
- וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי מַלְאָךְ הָאֱלֹהִים בְּחֵלוֹם יַעֲקֹב וְאָמַר הֲגִנִי:
- עֲקָרִים נִקְדִּים וּבְרֹהֲטִים כִּי רֵאִיתִי אֵת כֹּל־אֲשֶׁר לָבוֹן עֲשֵׂה לָךְ:
וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאֵלֵנִי עֵינֶיךָ וְהֵאֵל כֹּל־הַעֲתִידִים הָעֲלִים עַל־הַצֹּאן
- שֵׁם נָדָר עָתָה קוֹם צֵא מִן־הָאֶרֶץ הַזֹּאת וּשׁוֹב אֶל־אֶרֶץ מִוְלַדְתָּךְ:
אֲנֹכִי הָאֵל בֵּית־אֵל אֲשֶׁר מִשְׁחַתְּ שֵׁם מִצְבֵּה אֲשֶׁר נָדַרְתָּ לִּי
- 1 Now he heard the things that Laban’s sons were saying: “Jacob has taken all that was our father’s, and from that which was our father’s he has built up all this wealth.”
- 2 Jacob also saw that Laban’s manner toward him was not as it had been in the past.
- 3 Then הוּאִי said to Jacob, “Return to your ancestors’ land—where you were born—and I will be with you.”
- 4 Jacob had Rachel and Leah called to the field, where his flock was,
- 5 and said to them, “I see that your father’s manner toward me is not as it has been in the past. But the God of my father’s [house] has been with me.
- 6 As you know, I have served your father with all my might;
- 7 but your father has cheated me, changing my wages time and again.*time and again Lit. “ten times.” God, however, would not let him do me harm.
- 8 If he said thus, ‘The speckled shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks would drop speckled young; and if he said thus, ‘The streaked shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks would drop streaked young.
- 9 God has taken away your father’s livestock and given it to me.
- 10 “Once, at the mating time of the flocks, I had a dream in which I saw*I had a dream in which I saw Lit. “I raised my eyes and saw in a dream, behold.” that the he-goats mating with the flock were streaked, speckled, and mottled.
- 11 And in the dream a messenger of God said to me, ‘Jacob!’ ‘Here,’ I answered.
- 12 And the messenger said, ‘Note well that all the he-goats which are mating with the flock are streaked, speckled, and mottled; for I have noted all that Laban has been doing to you.
- 13 I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now, arise and leave this land and return to your native land.”