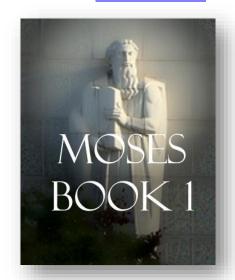


In this chapter we have the account of the increase to Jacob's family. Eight more children will be registered: Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Dinah and Joseph. Of Jacob's estate, he makes a new bargain with Laban. And these things concerning Jacob are for our instruction, not necessarily for our imitation, but sometimes for our admonition – Matthew Henry.

lacob's children.

- ¹ And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said to Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.
- ² And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?



- ³ And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in to her; and she will bear on my knees, that I may also have children by her.
- ⁴ And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife: and Jacob went in to her.
- ⁵ And Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son.
- ⁶ And Rachel said, God has judged me, and has also heard my voice, and has given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan.
- ⁷ And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son.
- ⁸ And Rachel said, With mighty wrestling I have wrestled with my sister, and indeed I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.
- ⁹ When Leah saw that she had left bearing, she took Zilpah her maid, and gave her Jacob to wife.
- ¹⁰ And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a son.
- ¹¹ And Leah said, How fortunate: and she called his name Gad.
- ¹² And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son.
- ¹³ And Leah said, I am blessed, for the women will call me blessed: and she called his name Asher.

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¹⁴ Now in the days of the wheat harvest Reuben went and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Please give me some of your son's mandrakes / an herb, used as an aphrodisiac.

¹⁵ But she said to her, Is it a small matter for you to take my husband? and would you take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he will lie you to night for thy son's mandrakes.

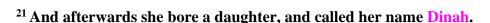
¹⁶ And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, You must come in to me; for surely I have hired you with my son's mandrakes. And he lay with her that night.

¹⁷ And God listened to Leah, and she conceived, and bare Jacob the fifth son.

¹⁸ And Leah said, God has given me my hire, because I have given my maiden to my husband: and she called his name Issachar.

¹⁹ And Leah conceived again, and bare Jacob the sixth son.

²⁰ And Leah said, God has endued me with a good gift; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have born him six sons: so she named him Zebulun.



²² And God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her, and opened her womb.

²³ And she conceived, and bare a son; and said, God has taken away my reproach:

²⁴ And she called his name **Joseph**; and said, The LORD will add to me another son.

²⁵ And it happened, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, Send me away, that I may go to my own place, and to my country.

 26 Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served you, and let me go: for you know my service which I have done you.

²⁷ But Laban said to him, I pray you, if I have found favor in your eyes, stay: for I have learned that the Lord has blessed me on account of you.





- ²⁸ And he said, Name your wages, and I will give it.
- ²⁹ But he said to him, You know how I have served you, and how your cattle fared with me.
- ³⁰ For you had little before I came, and it increased to a multitude; and the LORD blessed you since my coming: and now when will I provide for my own house also?
- ³¹ And he said, What will I give you? And Jacob said, You will not give me any thing: if thou will do this one thing for me, I will again pasture and keep your flock.
- ³²I will pass through all your flock today, and remove from there all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the black among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats: and will be my wages.
- ³³ So will my rightness will answer for me later when you come to me concerning my wages; every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and black among the sheep, that be considered stolen.
- ³⁴ And Laban said, Good, let it be according to your word.
- ³⁵ So he removed on that day the striped and spotted male goats, and all the speckled and spotted female goats, very one with white in it, and all the black among the sheep, and gave them into the care of his sons.
- ³⁶ And he put a three days journey between himself and Jacob: and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.
- ³⁷ Then Jacob took fresh rods of poplar and almond and plane trees; and peeled white stripes in them, exposing the white which was in the rods.
- ³⁸ And he set the rods which he peeled in front of the flocks in the gutters, and in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, and they mated when they came to drink.
- 39 So the flocks mated by the rods, and the flocks brought forth striped, speckled, and spotted.
- ⁴⁰ And Jacob separated the lambs, and faced the flocks toward the striped, and all the black in the flock of Laban; and he put his own flocks apart, and did not put them with Laban's flock.
- ⁴¹ And it happened, when the stronger of the flock were mating, that Jacob would put the rods in the sight of the flock in the gutters, that they might mate by the rods.



⁴² but when the flock was feeble, he did not put them: so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger were Jacob's.

⁴³ And the man prospered exceedingly, and had large flocks, and female and male servants, and camels, and asses.

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