

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ

Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz

...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free. Jn.8:32

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

22:11:15

Theme: FEAST TAINTED BY DECEIT

Memory Verse: *1 Corinthian 5:8 “Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”*

Texts: Genesis 29:21-28

On the agreed date for the wedding, Laban arranged a bridal feast, but craftily presented Leah instead of Rachel to Jacob as wife. This is reminiscent of the way Jacob and his mother used deceit to obtain the parental blessing of Isaac. What a twist of fate! Just as he used the cover of Isaac’s partial blindness to practice deceit, so also Laban used the cover of darkness to deceive him. Christians must be conscious of God’s law of sowing and reaping and determine to sow good seeds in order to reap good fruits in time come. (Galatians 6:9).

When confronted by Jacob, Laban claimed to have acted in good faith and accordance with their custom. Expectedly, Jacob was outraged and in a bid to pacify him, Laban mindlessly proposed to offer Rachel to him as a second wife for a further service of seven years. Unfortunately, this action later plunged Jacob’s family into much strife and painful competition. There was a fierce rivalry between the sisters. “And Rachel said with great wrestling have I wrestled with my sister” (Genesis30:8).

The record of strife which developed in Jacob’s family is a very unpleasant story. Unnecessary family feuds such as we have between Rachel and her sister, Leah is energy-dissipating, time-wasting, economically burdensome and spiritually distracting (Genesis 30:8,14,15) When believers spend their time on fighting and wrestling with each other, lest time and less stamina will be left to earnestly contend for faith once delivered unto the saints. We are called to wrestle not against fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord, but against spiritual wickedness in high places, and rulers of the darkness of this world.