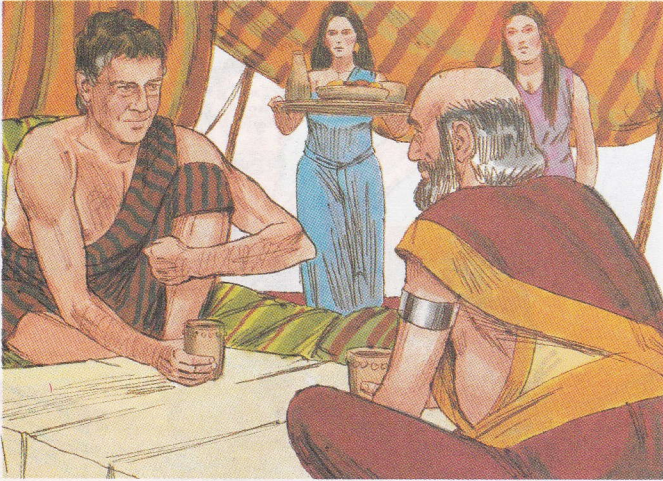
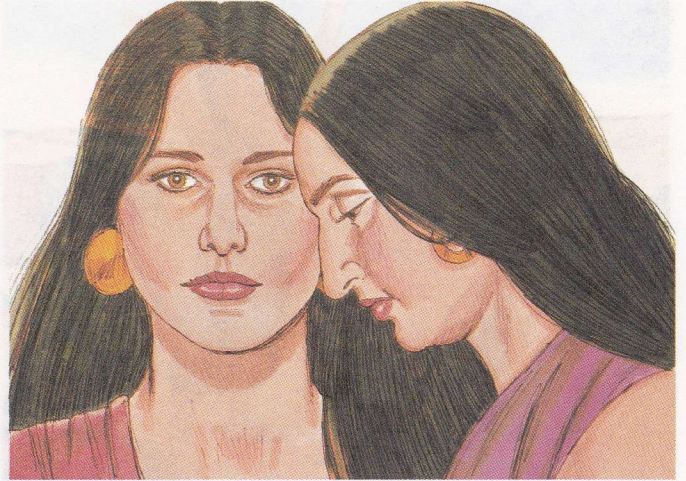


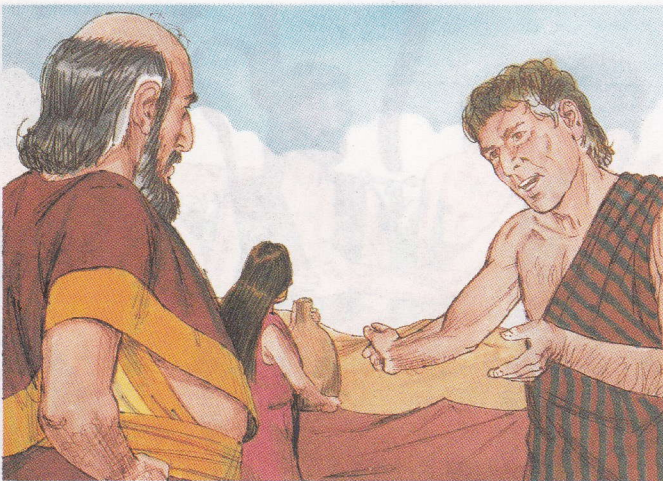
# Jacob Gets Two Wives



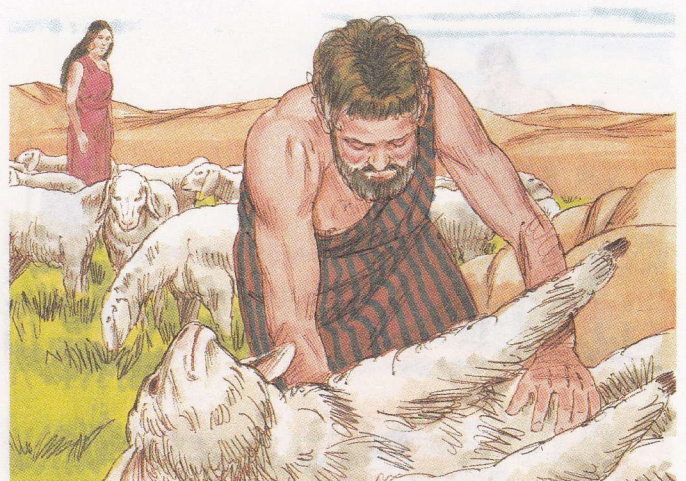
**1** Because of Esau's anger, Jacob had been sent to Haran, where he lived with his uncle, Laban.



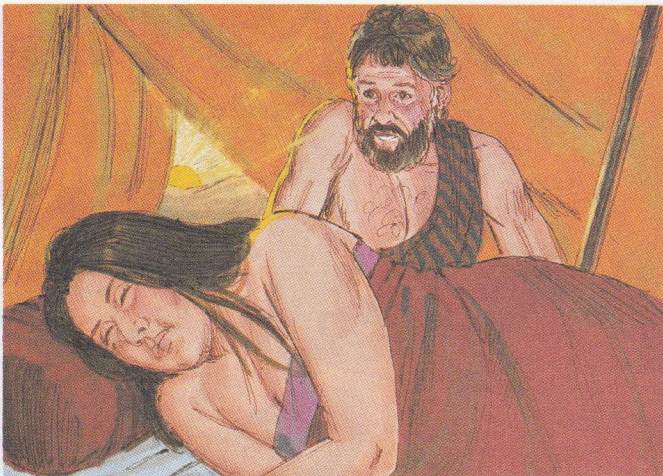
**2** Laban had two daughters. Rachel, the younger daughter, was more beautiful than Leah, the older one. Jacob soon fell in love with Rachel.



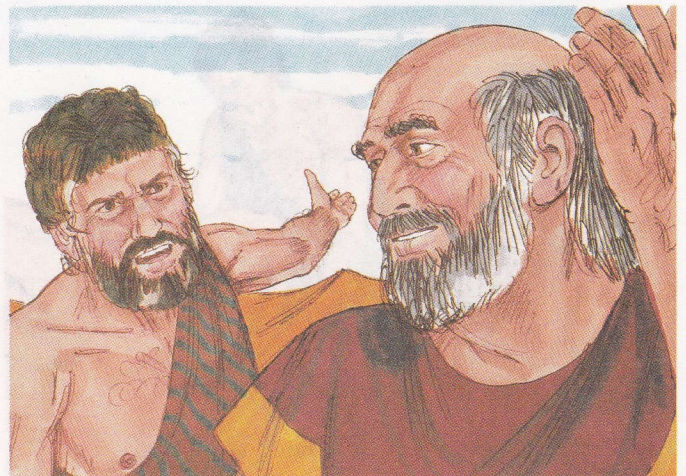
**3** Laban offered to pay Jacob to work for him, but Jacob said, "I will work seven years for you if you will let me marry Rachel."



**4** Laban agreed, so Jacob worked for him for a full seven years. But the time seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for Rachel.



**5** When seven years had passed, Laban gave a wedding feast for Jacob. But that night he sent Leah instead of Rachel to Jacob. The next morning Jacob awoke to discover that Laban had tricked him.



**6** When Jacob complained, Laban said, "It is not our custom to let the younger daughter marry before the older. But I will give you Rachel now if you will work for me for another seven years."



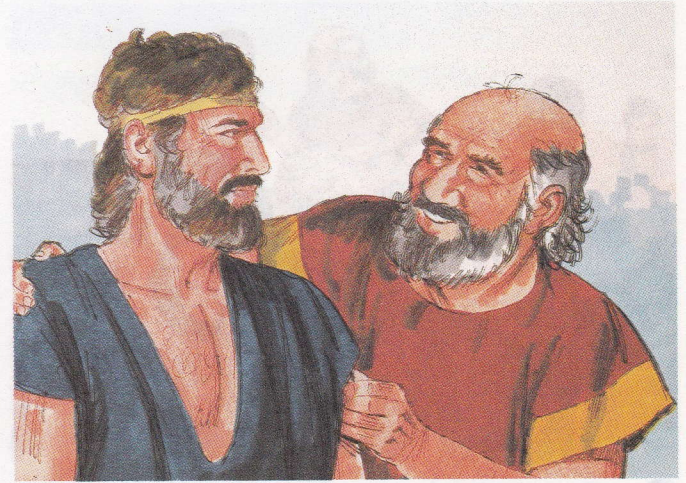
**7** Jacob agreed to that. When the week of marriage celebrations was over, Laban gave Jacob his other daughter Rachel to be his wife, too. Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah.



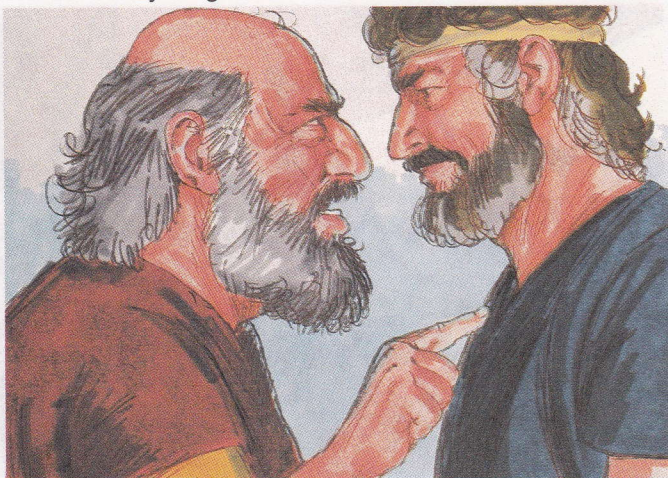
**8** While Jacob lived in Haran, he became the father of many children. His two wives and their two slave girls, Bilhah and Zilpah, bore him eleven sons. The son of Rachel, Jacob's favorite, was Joseph.



**9** After his son Joseph was born, Jacob wanted to return home to Canaan. Laban, however, knew that God had blessed him because of Jacob, so he asked Jacob to stay longer.



**10** Jacob agreed to stay longer if Laban would give him all the black lambs and all the spotted or speckled goats. This would make it easy to know which animals belonged to Laban and which belonged to Jacob.



**11** In a dream, God told Jacob how to increase his flocks of sheep and herds of goats. Gradually Jacob became very wealthy and his flocks became much larger than Laban's. Laban grew angry with Jacob.



**12** God was now ready for Jacob to return to his home in Canaan, the land of his fathers. Jacob's departure was to lead to trouble between Jacob and his uncle Laban.