



Introduction

Jacob's family grows and he is prosperous.

Questions

1. What was Rachel's reaction to her sister when she had no children?
2. What does Rachel do as a result of her lack of children?
3. What did Jacob suggest to Laban should be his wages?

Summary Points

- **v 1 to 13** by her infertility and gives her maid to Jacob who has two sons by her
- **v 14 to 21** Rachel lets Leah sleep with Jacob after requesting her son's mandrakes (see information). Leah has two more sons
- **v 22 to 24** Finally Rachel conceives. The descendants of Jacob's sons will eventually become the nation of Israel
- **v 25 to 34** Jacob agrees with Laban that all the speckled and spotted sheep will be his and all the plain sheep will be Laban's
- **v 35 to 43** Laban then removes all the speckled and spotted sheep from Jacob's flocks. Jacob becomes prosperous, despite Laban's scheming. Jacob uses unusual methods to try and increase his flock

Timeline to 2000 BC (see below)

Information

Mandrakes



Mandrakes are the roots of the *Mandragora officinarum*, a member of the potato family. It is a common plant all over Palestine, growing particularly in the spring and ripening about the time of the wheat harvest.

The roots of the *Mandragora* plant were believed to help in the conception of children. This explains Rachel's interest in the mandrakes that Reuben had found.





? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 1, Q 2: v 3 and 4, Q 3: v 32

Bible timeline

