

**Genesis**  
**Chapter 30**  
**Instructor**

**Contents:** Jacob's posterity in Padan-aram. The second deal between Jacob and Laban.

**Characters:** Rachael, Jacob, Laban, Leah, Joseph.

**Conclusion:** We are ignorant of GOD's Grace. Instead of scheming to get our way, we should have as a life goal to learn to put our explicit confidence in God's promises.

**Key Word:** Blessed, 27.

**Strong Verses:** 27.

**Striking Facts:** The success of Jacob's policy was not sufficient to justify it, had it been unjust toward the shrewd Laban, but evidently it was not unjust, for see Genesis 31:12.

**Questions:**

1. What was the fate of Bilhah and Zilpah?
  
2. What were the children of Bilhah?
  
3. What were the children of Zilpah?
  
4. What were the children of Leah?
  
5. What were the children of Rachel?
  
6. How did Jacob "trick" Laban?
  
7. What were the mandrakes used for? As an aphrodisiac.

Did it work?

**Discussion Question:** How does Galatians 6:7 relate to this chapter?

# Mandrakes



Mandrake - a Mediterranean plant of the nightshade family, with white or purple flowers and large yellow berries. It has a forked fleshy root that supposedly resembles the human form and was formerly widely used in medicine and magic, allegedly shrieking when pulled from the ground.

In the Bible's Book of Genesis, mandrake root helps Rachel conceive Jacob, and in Greek mythology, Circe and Aphrodite are thought to use it as an aphrodisiac. But its powers are not only mythical: a member of the nightshade plant family, mandrake contains hallucinogenic and narcotic alkaloids. [Dioscurides](#), a first-century Greek physician, tells us that a "winecupful" of mandrake root (that is, mandrake root boiled in wine) was used as an anesthetic in ancient Rome. But be careful, he warns—take too much, and one might end up dead.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/the-history-and-uses-of-the-magical-mandrake-according-to-modern-witches>