



**STRONG'S HEBREW/GREEK DEFINITIONS**



- 1 INHERITANCE (H5159) "Nachalah" - something inherited; a heirloom; an estate, patrimony or portion; possession
- 2 INHERITANCE (G2817) "Kleronomia" - a patrimony or a possession
- 3 IMAGES (H8655) "Teraphim" - (plural from H7495 "Raphah" to mend, to cure, a physician, to make whole) a healer; a family idol.  
IDOL (H8655) Same as above  
TERAPHIM (H8655) Same as above

*teraphim*

Teraphim (H8655) is a loanword from the Hittite-Hurrian "tarpis." Its basic meaning is "spirit" or "demon." Hurrian law of this period recognized "household idols" as deeds to the family's succession and goods, extremely important to Laban in every way. - Vines

**TEXT OF THE WEEK**

*"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not on thine own understanding.*

*In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

*Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel and marrow to thy bones."*

*Prov. 3:5-8*

# THE IMAGE

December 6, 2009

A BIBLICAL STUDY of Genesis 31

## "Rachel Had Stolen the Images That Were Her Fathers"

If Jacob was sent to the country of his grandfather Abraham to find a wife equally yoked, how can it be explained that Rachel brought her father's images back with her? What do these "images" represent?

1. Familiarize yourself with the context by reading Genesis 29-31. What prompted Jacob to leave with his family and belongings? Gen. 31:11-13
  2. What was the concern of both Rachel and Leah? 31:14-15
    - A. This first occurrence of the word "inheritance" is rarely used in the historical sense but most often used metaphorically. i.e. Num. 18:20; Deut. 4:20; Ps. 16:5; 33:12
    - B. The Greek word (2817) supports the Hebrew identically: i.e. Heb. 9:15; I Pet. 1:4-5
  3. How did Rachel fend for herself? Gen. 31:19
    - Who else possessed similar images? I Sam. 19:11
    - What eventually became the consequence to the Israelites who possessed these images? II Kings 23:24; Judges 18:13-27; Hosea 3:3-5
  4. Notice the first definition of "Images" is a "healer," taken from the Hebrew word Raphah, "to mend, to cure, a physician." Why is this an interesting correlation? Luke 5:31-32
  5. Why did Rachel feel the need to take these images with her? Had she not yet learned to trust in the God of Jacob? Did she worry about leaving the only life she ever knew? Was she concerned about the welfare of her children? What did this image represent to her? Learn what the Bible teaches accordingly.
    - A. The inheritance (Gen. 31:14) - Luke 12:13-21ff; Mark 10:24
    - B. The victim (Gen. 31:15) - Luke 12:4-8
    - C. Dependence on self (Gen. 31:19) - Prov. 3:5-8
    - D. The cover up (Gen. 31:32, 35) - Prov. 19:22
  6. We live in a time of great stress, both financially and emotionally. How can we find comfort in the Lord and not rely on these "images" within our reach?
    - A. Trusting in something other than the Lord - Jer. 17:5-7
    - B. Placing the cares of this world before the Lord - Luke 8:14; I Tim. 6:9-10
    - C. Relying on outside resources - Micah 7:5-8
- "Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide..." Micah 7:5-8*
7. What is the result of leaning solely on the Lord?
    - A. Ps. 127:1-2
    - B. Phil. 4:7