

Sermon Notes

04/21/24

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear ²¹ so that I return safely to my father’s household, then the LORD will be my God ²² and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.”

Genesis 28:10-22

1. “A certain place”

Bethel - the house of God, the gate of heaven.

Why wouldn't this have been the perfect place for the temple?

a. “The Gate of heaven”

Genesis 11: they said to themselves lets, “build a tower that reaches to the heavens”.

The tower was built in the heart of the city of Babylon.

Babylon: _____ of the gods.

The _____ to Heaven can only be provided by God, not by man’s efforts.

b. Bethel: House of God

With the death and resurrection of Jesus, and the sending of His Holy Spirit God relocated the temple to _____ .

We are Bethel

2. The ladder

Is a bridge between Heaven and Earth.

Jacob got a glimpse of the _____ between Heaven and Earth, proving.

God's _____ with His creation.

This vision changed _____

The event is a _____ .

“Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.” 50 Jesus said, “You believe[h] because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” 51 He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.’” John 1:47-51

- The ladder is _____ :
- “I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the father except through me”. John 14:6
- “I am the gate” John 10:9

3. The promise restated.

The _____ : I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.

4. Jacob's response.

“He will be my God.”

This is the beginning of Jacob's _____ .

We are God's house, and we are told the stone the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.

Come to me to have life

Genesis 11 tells us of men making an attempt to reach heaven.

The religious leaders were still attempting to _____ .

Is He my God? “And of all that you give me, I will give a 10th.”

Tithing is a _____; it is a sign of life.

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24

There is a direct connection between _____ is your God and what _____ Him.

Respond to Jesus as Jacob did, make Him your God, and of all that He gives you, give him a _____.