

“A Journey and a Dream”
Genesis 28

Chpts. 27:46 – A reminder...

Chpt. 28 A continuation...

v.1 Q. What do we see Isaac doing with Jacob.

A.

1. _____ Jacob (affirmation of the irrevocable and perhaps a personal _____ between them after the deception.)
2. _____ Jacob to avoid _____ any Canaanite women.

v. 2 Q. Connected to point “2” – What is the detailed command?

A.

1. Leave _____.
2. Go to your mother's _____ family.
3. Marry one of your _____.

Note: Remember – this is not about finding a wife. This is about Jacob not getting _____ by his brother. The point, from Rebekah's point of view, was to get him out of the area as soon as possible. The wife “thing” was just the _____ needed for the ultimate saving action.

vv. 3-4 Connected to point "1" - What is the blessing?

A.

1. This is a continuation of the _____ command and blessing (1:22), that continued through Noah (8:17/9:1), Abraham (17:5); and Isaac (26:3-4).
2. It also involves the _____.

v. 5 The sending...

Connecting us back to 22:22-24 [the extended family; after the test of Abraham sacrificing his son, Isaac.]

vv. 6-9 Q. What is this whole thing with Esau really about?

A.

vv. 10 – 11 Q. Describe the setting.

A.

1. Jacob is leaving southern Canaan for what will be an area of _____ (Harran). It is approximately _____ miles and would have taken _____ days to walk there at 20 miles per day.
2. Jacob goes down for the night using a _____ for a pillow.

v. 12 Q. Describe the first part of the dream.

A.

1. Jacob sees a stairway. In the original Hebrew it is a "_____ " (*sullam*).
2. The stairway (ladder) appeared to go from the earth to _____.

3. The angels of God descended and _____ upon it.

Note: This plurality of angelic _____ is why it is described as a stairway rather than a ladder – it fits better with the visual mind.

Q. What, if any, bearing does this text have on John 1:50-51?

A.

1. It is a prophetic vision that will lay the _____ for something greater.
2. This vision and its reality will be _____ than a divine awareness of the position of another person (Nathanael under a tree).
3. Jesus would claim to be the _____ – the connection between heaven and earth.

Note: This could be:

1. Jesus as God _____ to man; and Jesus as fully man _____ to God.
2. Speaking of Jesus' _____ as both God and man.

vv. 16-17 Q. What does Jacob deduce from the dream?

A.

1. _____ or _____ . God is in "this" place [and not some other].

2. His _____, i.e. he did not recognize it.
3. The _____ of God's presence, i.e. "How awesome..."

Note: Rashi states, "...if I would have known this, I would not have slept in such a _____ place – reflecting both the character of _____ and his _____ character.

4. God dwells on _____, i.e. makes his abode.

Note: We would have expected it to say, "God's abode in _____" but it does not. It is the opposite.

5. This was an _____ to heaven.

Note: The _____ in Mecca [the Black Cube] is believed by Muslims to act in a similar manner. Many cultures seem to have this idea of a _____ – a place of entrance to another world or dimension. All of these, however, are _____ realms as attested to by those coming out of false religions, especially _____ and who have found the true entrance (Jesus Christ, Jn 14:6).

vv. 18 - 19 Q. What action did he take?

1. He made an _____ using the stone pillow.
2. He _____ it as a holy place using oil.
3. He changed the _____ to reflect a new truth/a new experience, i.e. "Beth el" = House of God.

vv. 20 – 22 Q. What is included in Jacob's vow? (3rd class conditional clause)

A. If...

1. I have your personal _____

2. I have your personal _____

3. I have your personal _____

"...so that I return _____ back home.

Then...

1. I will commit to a personal _____ with You.

2. This stone will be a _____ center.

3. I will acknowledge your _____ over my life by giving back to you one _____ of everything that is given to me.

Q. How was this relationship different than Abraham's and Isaac's?

A. It was _____ from Jacob's perspective – as if God had to _____ Himself before Jacob would commit.

Q. How does the character/name of Jacob reflect this interaction with God?

A. Jacob's name meant "supplanter" or "_____" – a man you could not trust or from whom you would not receive trust.

Application questions:

Q. What principles can we draw from the text in regards to marriage, e. g. parental role, choice of potential spouse, etc...

A.

Q. Read 2 Corinthians 6:13-16. How does Paul address this in general?

A.

Q. What can we learn about worship from Jacob?

A.

1. God _____. He seeks us not the other way around.
2. There are _____ spaces to be remembered.
3. Worship is the connected _____ of heaven with earth.
4. Worship is the recognized _____ of God with man and the resultant _____.

Q. Do you operate with a "third-class conditional" faith when it comes to God? "If you do this...then I'll do this."

A.

Q. Why do most adults still seek the approval of their parents?

A.