

Nowhere To Look But Up

Genesis 28:1-22

Introduction

I Jacob's Departure

- A. Isaac _____ Jacob
- B. Isaac instructed Jacob
 - 1. Do not marry a Canaanite woman - Gen 26:34-35; 27:46
 - 2. Take a ___ from the daughters of Laban - 2 Cor 6:14-16
- C. Isaac pronounced a blessing on Jacob
 - 1. May God bless you & make you _____ - Jn15:8; 2Ti 2:2
 - 2. May He give you the blessing and _____ of Abraham
- D. Isaac sent Jacob on his way

II Esau's Reaction To His Father

- A. He learned of Isaac's instruction to Jacob - Ex 20:12
- B. He realized that his wives _____ Isaac
- C. He married, Mahalath, daughter of Ishmael - Isa 30:1

III Jacob's Dream

- A. Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran
 - 1. He stopped for the night along the way
 - 2. He put a _____ under his head for a pillow
- B. Jacob had a dream - Heb 1:1-2; Isa 30:15
 - 1. He saw a _____ reaching to heaven - Jn 1:51; 14:6
 - 2. He saw angels ascending and descending - Heb 1:14
- C. Jacob heard the Lord speak to him
 - 1. I am the Lord, the God of Abraham and Isaac
 - 2. I will give you the _____ you are lying on
 - 3. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth
 - 4. All _____ on earth will be blessed through you
 - 5. I will be with you and will _____ over you - Isa 41:10
 - 6. I will bring you back to this land
 - 7. I will not _____ you until I have done what I promised

IV Jacob's Reaction To His Heavenly Father

- A. Jacob awoke from his sleep he said: - Ps 139:7-10
 - 1. The Lord is in this _____, and I was not aware of it

- 2. How awesome is this place
 - a. This is the _____ of God - Col 1:21-22
 - b. This is the _____ of heaven - Jn 10:9-10; Matt 7:13-14
- B. Jacob took his stone pillow and set up a memorial
 - 1. He set it up as a _____
 - 2. He poured oil on top of it
 - 3. He called the place, Bethel
- C. Jacob made a conditional vow to God
 - 1. His _____:
 - a. If God will be with me
 - b. If God will _____ over me on this journey
 - c. If God will give me good to eat and clothes to wear
 - d. If God brings me back safely to my father's house
 - 2. His _____:
 - a. Then the Lord will be my God - Jn 15:16; Eph 1:4-7
 - b. Then the stone will be God's house - Gen 35:1
 - c. Then I will give God _____ of all He gives - Mal 3:8-11

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

- 1. Share the most significant encounter you've ever had with God.
- 2. Jacob was running from the consequences of "working the angles". Is there anything in your life that you are running from? What do you think God wants you to do? [Prov 28:13]
- 3. In verses 20-22, Jacob seems to be striking a deal with God. What's happening here? 1) Jacob is "working the angles" 2) He has a growing trust in God or 3) It's a new spiritual beginning.
- 4. What does the Bible teach regarding salvation: Did we choose God, or did He choose us? [Hint: Read Jn 15:16; Eph 1:4-7]
- 5. What evidence do you see that Jacob was truly converted? Do you see this same evidence in your life? Why or why not?
- 6. Take a moment to thank God for "ruining you" that you might become useful for Him. [James 1:2-4; 1Pet 3:3-9; 1Cor 1:8-9]

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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