

“God’s Covenant of Grace”

Genesis 28:10-22

Introduction

I remember going on trips alone for NIKE, and one in particular to Hong Kong.

vv. 10-11 “Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. 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.”

The Bottom Line:

- **God had a close encounter with Jacob that revealed much.**

vv. 12-13a “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. ¹³There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac...”

Acts 7:55-56

- **God’s covenant with Jacob was the same as with Abram and Isaac.**

vv. 13b-14 “I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴Your 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.”

Genesis 28:3-4

Genesis 12:1-3

Genesis 26:2-5

- **God’s covenant with Jacob was a covenant of grace.**

v. 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.”

God takes the initiative with Abram, Isaac and here, Jacob, promising to make them into a great nation, and to bless them, as well as make them a blessing to all the people groups of the world. But here specifically also, we see He promises Jacob, to be with him.

- **Jacob recognized this place as the “House of God”.**

vv. 16-19 “When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

¹⁸Early 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. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.”

God meets us wherever we are, but also in special places.

Acts 7:48-50

- **Was Jacob’s vow conditional or unreserved?**

vv. 20-22 “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 ²¹so that I return safely to my father’s household, **then** the LORD will be my God ²²and 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.”

Conclusion

God has close encounters with all of us, maybe not as profound or celestial as Jacob’s dream, but still very real that reveal His existence and Deity.

Psalm 19:1-4a, John 1:9, Romans 1:19-21

- John 1:51 “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 14:6 “Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The covenant of grace made first with Abram, was a Covenant initiated and fulfilled by God alone. The New Covenant, which is received by faith Jesus, and what He has done, through His blood is made available to all who would believe in Him. He made all the moves and necessary sacrifices, we simply accept it by faith.

Psalm 66:5 “**Come and see** what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!

John 1:37-39

John 1:44-46

God was still not done with Jacob, and He is still not done with you!