

The Night God Let The Ladder Down

TEXT: Genesis 28: 10-22

Rich in symbolism; where **OT** meets **NT**. The Holy Spirit reached forward with the *Scarlet Thread of Redemption* from Jacob to John! Or, as Lester Roloff put it, where *Dr. Law* met *Dr. Grace* (explain). To understand this scene, go back to the circumstances before:

1. **THE BIRTHRIGHT:** Schofield does harm to the Scriptures!

A. God had **ALREADY SPOKEN** on who would receive it:

(Genesis 25: 23) And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be sep-arated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.

B. Doesn't the Birthright belong to the **FIRSTBORN**? No. It is the privilege of the **FATHER** to bestow:

(1 Chronicles 5: 1) Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel, (for he was the firstborn; but forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright.

Neither Seth, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, nor David were firstborn!

(Romans 9: 10-13) And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

C. Esau **HATED**?.... Why?

1. He **DESPISED** his birthright:

(Genesis 25: 34) Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

2. Esau was a **FORNICATOR**. He married two Hittite (pagans) women, both of which grieved his mother to the point of despair of life!

D. Jacob **LOVED**? Why? Jacob was a "plain" (Heb. "Tam" *moral, pious, gentle, dear*)

(Genesis 25: 27) And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents.

Stayed by his parents, ran the family business, carried out the sacrifices and respected the birthright promise of God.

2. THE BLESSING: (*Treachery and Deceit?*)

- A. Rebekah and Jacob respected God's declared will. God never rebuked either. **EVER!**
- B. They feared for Isaac's foolishness. Would God intervene?
- C. Isaac, deceived, gave Jacob the blessing, then reconfirmed:

(Genesis 28: 1) *And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.*

- D. Esau's **RAGE** and oath to kill his brother.

3. THE FLIGHT TO HARAN: Journey into the unknown, guided by an *Unseen Hand*.

(Jeremiah 10: 23) *O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.*

Jacob brought to the place of Abraham's blessing (Bethel)
(*The House of God* - Genesis 12: 7-8, 13: 3)

- A. His **VERY FIRST** direct encounter with God Almighty! He had walked faithfully, in silence, for over **FORTY** years!

4. THAT NIGHT, GOD LET THE LADDER DOWN!

- A. What a place of **REVELATION!** (*Just when I need Him...*)

- 1. **POWER!** (Angels Ascending and Descending!)

(Hebrews 1: 14) *Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*

- 2. **COMMUNION** with the *LORD* Himself! The Lord, standing above, and the Ladder, **HIMSELF!** **BETHEL** also means *The Gate of Heaven!*

- B. Reaffirmation of the **ABRAHAMIC COVENANT** (*Grace!*)

(Genesis 28: 13-15) *And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.*

- C. The revelation of the **SAVIOUR!** 2000 years before Calvary! "**LADDER**" (Hebrew "Sullam" - unique to only one! Jesus Christ, the "**ONLY BEGOTTEN**")

(John 1: 51) *And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.*

- D. The **LADDER** is not just for Jacob! He is the **STONE** of redemption, the **ROCK OF AGES!** He is the **DOOR**, the **STAIRWAY** to Heaven! And He did it all for you and me!

(John 14: 1-6) *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

Have you had an encounter with Him? Do you have this kind of close communion with the Lord Jesus Christ?