

Stairway to Heaven

Genesis 28:1 – 29:14



Genesis 28:1 – 29:14

¹ So Isaac called for Jacob **and blessed him**. Then he commanded him: '**Do not marry a Canaanite woman**. ² Go at once to Paddan Aram, to the house of your mother's father Bethuel. **Take a wife** for yourself there, from among the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother. ³ May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples. ⁴ May he give you and your descendants **the blessing given to Abraham**, so that you may take possession of the land where you now reside as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham.'

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.

Genesis 28:1 – 29:14

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.

Genesis 28:1 – 29:14

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.**”

29:9-12, While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father’s sheep, for she was a shepherdess. ¹⁰ **When Jacob saw Rachel** daughter of his uncle Laban, and Laban’s sheep, he went over and **rolled the stone away** from the mouth of the well **and watered** his uncle’s sheep. ¹¹ Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to **weep aloud**. ¹² He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and **told her father**.

On the Run
On a Rock
Onto a Relationship

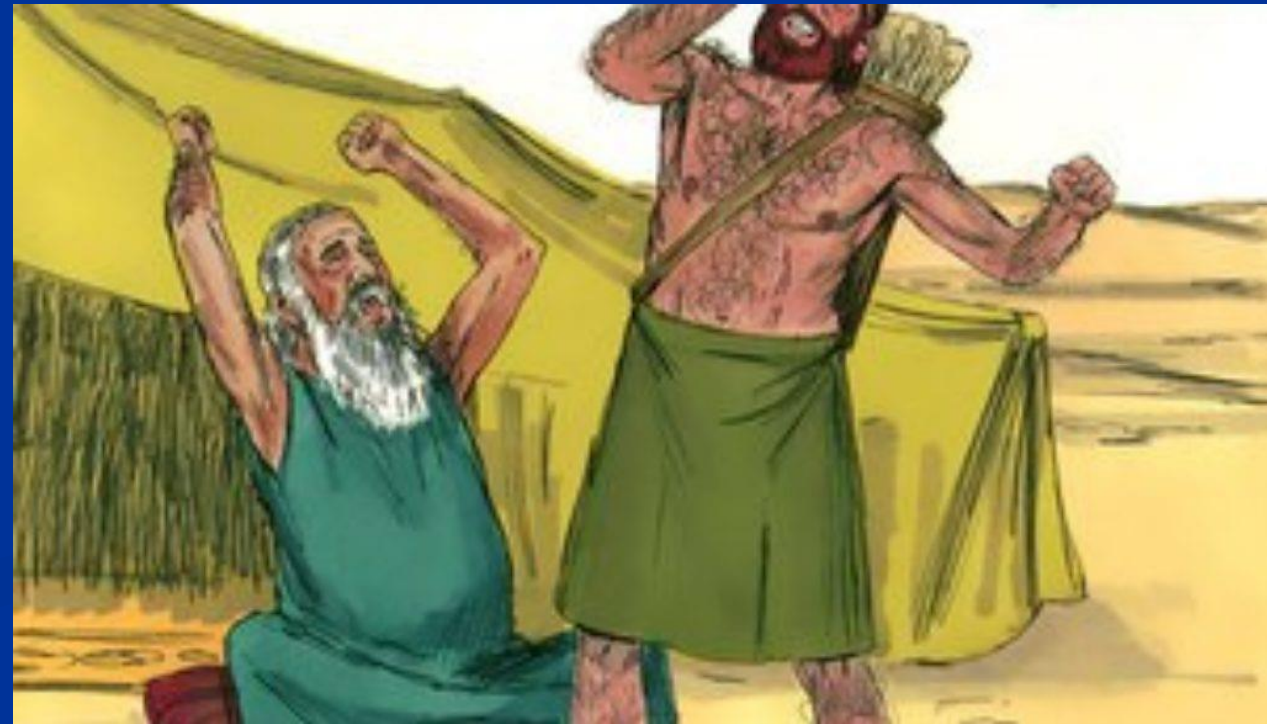
Stairway to Heaven



On the Run

v28:1-2, “..Do not marry a Canaanite woman.. **take a wife**.. from the daughters of ... your mother’s brother..”

Esau was nursing a thought of killing Jacob !



On the Run

v28:1-2, “..Do not marry a Canaanite woman.. **take a wife**.. from the daughters of ... your mother’s brother..”

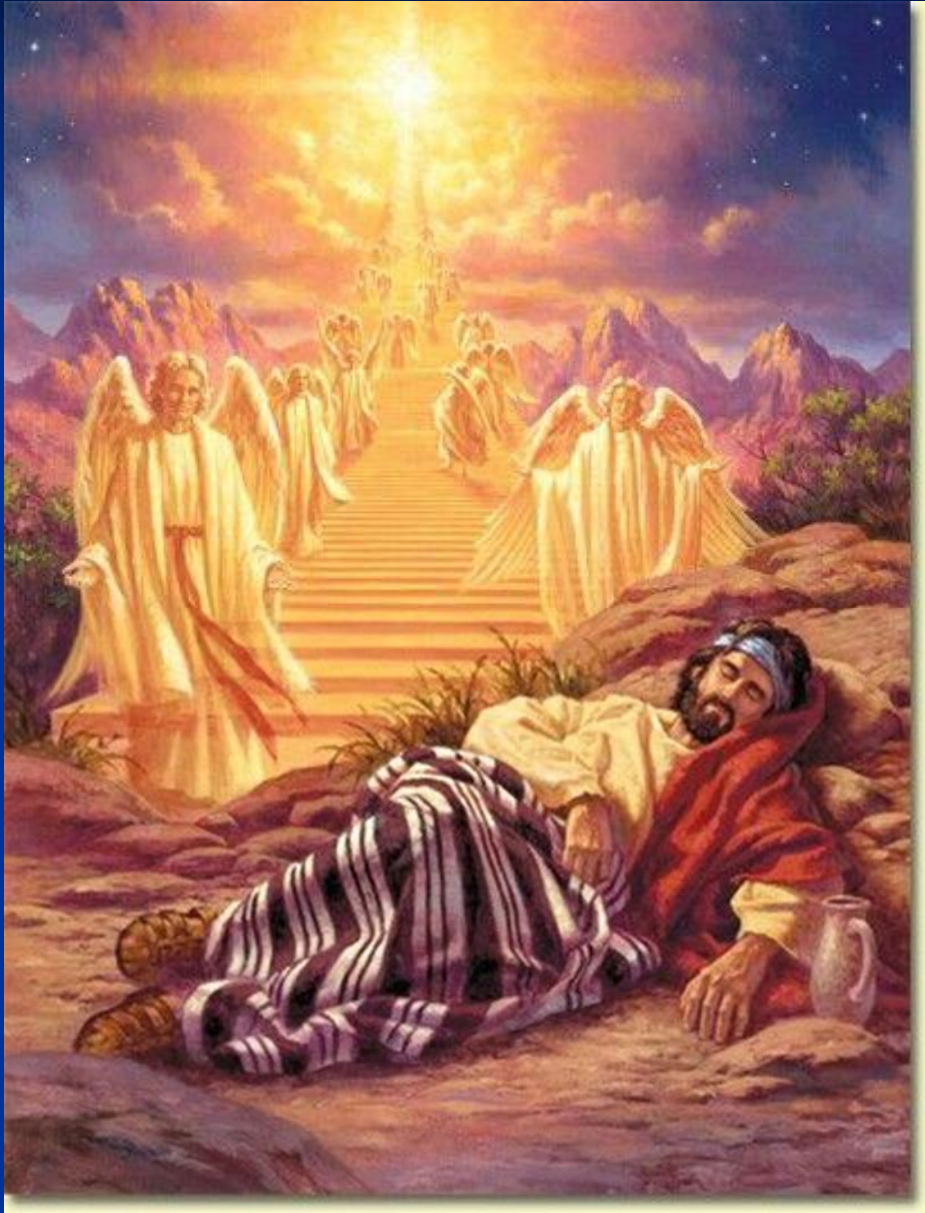
Esau was nursing a thought of killing Jacob !

v28:1, “ ... **Isaac blessed Jacob**.. ”

- fruitful & increase in numbers ..
- “the blessing given to Abraham”
- The Land



On a Rock



So, Jacob left.. reached a place.. taking a stone.. sleep.

Stairway to Heaven

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."

On a Rock



"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. **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." - 28:13-15

On a Rock

And he was afraid and said,

**HOW AWESOME
IS THIS PLACE!**

This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.

GENESIS 28:17



On That Rock

THEN,

“ The LORD will be MY God ! ”

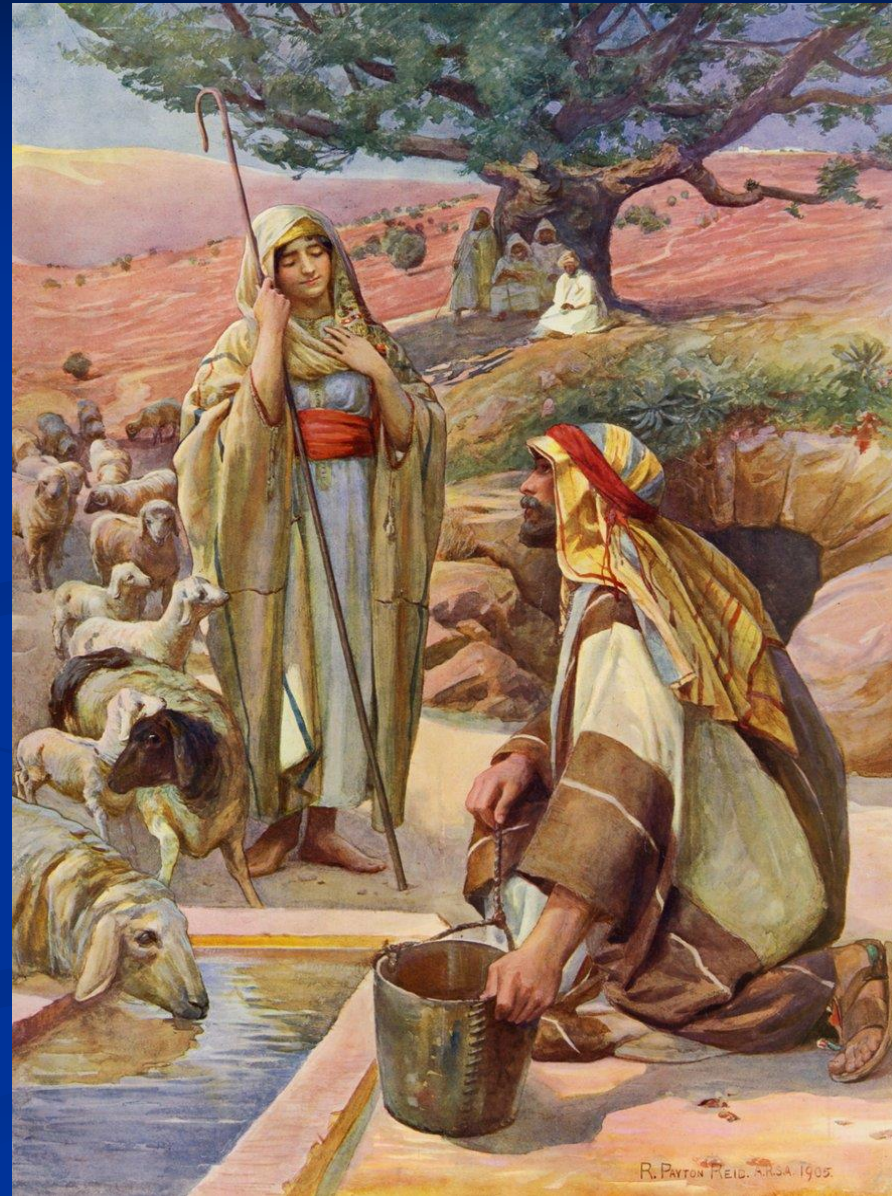
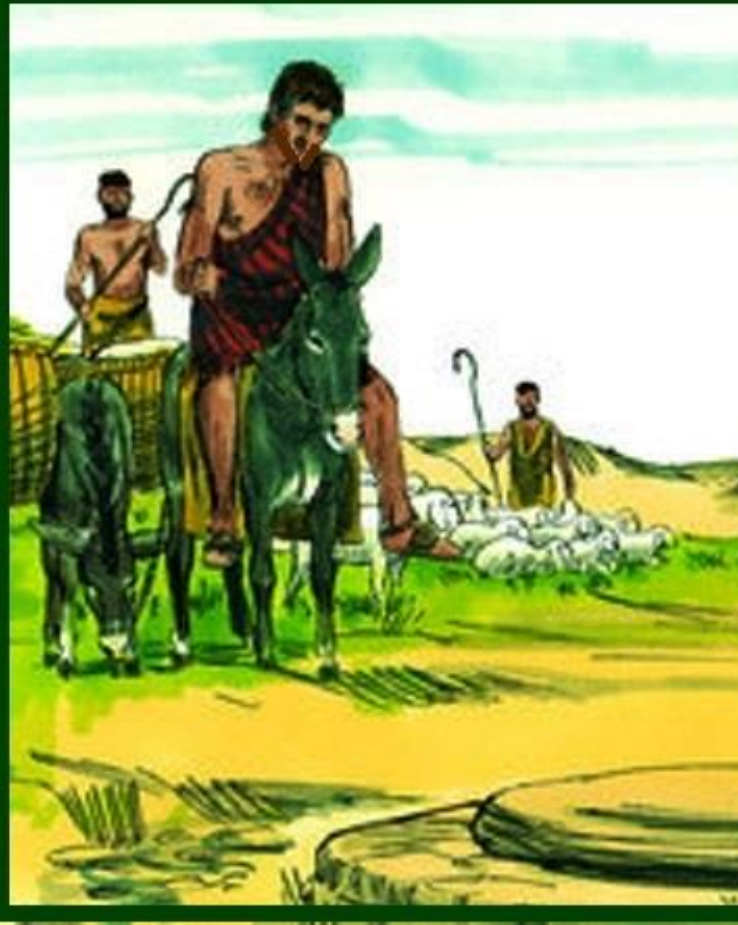
■ Jacob's Vow - IF

- “..God .. with me, ..will watch over me.. “
- “ .. will give me food to eat and clothes to wear.. ”
- “ .. so that I return safely.. ”

“... of all that
you give me
I will give you
a tenth.”

Genesis 28:22

Onto a Relationship



Stairway to Heaven

- From a favoured son to the fugitive brother.
- Prophecy to self-imposed exile
- On the rocks to the Rock
- Faithless to believing





You shall see
heaven open,
and the angels of God
ascending and descending
on the *Son of Man.*

JOHN 1:51

Stairway to Heaven

Stairway to Heaven

WHERE ?

WHO ?

WHAT ?

The WORD of God !