



A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of July 3, 2022

God's Grace to a Man in Trouble

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from [Genesis 28:1-5, 10-22](#)

¹ Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and directed him, "You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women. ² Arise, go to Paddan-aram to the house of Bethuel your mother's father, and take as your wife from there one of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother. ³ God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples. ⁴ May he give the blessing of Abraham to you and to your offspring with you, that you may take possession of the land of your sojournings that God gave to Abraham!" ⁵ Thus Isaac sent Jacob away. And he went to Paddan-aram, to Laban, the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother....

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ 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."

¹⁸ So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

- Share about a time when you went to a **new home, school, or job**. What did that **feel like**? What things were **on your mind**?
- Chapter 28 begins, and Jacob is sent away from his family. They have just been devastated by their own selfishness and deceit. However, the Lord is at work and provides a way for His good purposes to move forward. This week, we'll focus on Genesis 28:1-5. Next week, we'll consider 28:10-22. Isaac has both a **command** and a **blessing** for Jacob. **What is Isaac's command?** (1-2)
- What is the **problem with marrying a Canaanite woman for Isaac**? Why is a **wife from Paddan-aram** commanded? (1-2)
- Isaac now blesses Jacob directly, showing himself to be the child of God's promise to Abraham. What **things are promised and hoped for** in this blessing? (3-4)
- "God Almighty" is the One who blesses Jacob (3). This name, first revealed to Abraham in [Genesis 17:1](#), emphasizes that God will do what He purposes to do. Why would **Jacob be particularly blessed** to know that **God Almighty's purposes must come to pass**?
- God Almighty will make Jacob fruitful that he might become a "company of peoples" (3). This word will become the Old Testament term for "church" or "congregation". Why would **Jacob be particularly blessed** to know that **God Almighty planned for a faithful community of worshippers** in his promised home?
- God Almighty will grant the land promised to Abraham to Jacob's people (4). Why would **Jacob be particularly blessed** to know that **God Almighty guaranteed his inheritance**?
- How are **you personally blessed** to know that **God's promises must come to pass**?
- How are **you personally blessed** to know that **you belong to a new family in Jesus Christ**?
- If you are interested in reading further: In [Genesis 28:6-9](#) we learn that this produces an interesting reaction from Esau. **What does Esau do in response?** What indication do we have that Esau still may not **understand or value the meaning of birthright and blessing**?
- God Almighty has been faithful to His promises. Through Jesus Christ, we have a new family and an inheritance that will never fade. **Repent and pray together** in light of this week's passage.

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