

JACOB'S DREAM

Old Testament Lesson #20

Fleeing from the anger of his brother Esau, Jacob left Beersheba (beer-SHE-ba) and headed to Haran (HA-ran). He traveled as far as he could and then stopped for the night at a "certain place." He took a stone and put it under his head and lay down and went to sleep.

During his sleep he had a dream in which he saw a stairway that was sitting upon the earth. The top of it reached to heaven. On the stairway, he saw the angels of God ascending and descending. Above it the LORD appeared and spoke to Jacob in the dream. He told Jacob, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac." He told him he would give him and his descendants the land on which he was lying. He also told him that his descendants would be as the dust of the earth; they would spread out in all four directions, and all the people of the earth would be blessed through his offspring.

God told Jacob that he would be with him and promised that he would return Jacob to the land at some point, not leaving him until he had completed all that he had promised.

When Jacob woke up, he thought that surely he had slept in the "house of God," at the very "gate of heaven." He took the stone he had slept on and set it up as a pillar. He poured oil on it and named the place Bethel, which means "house of God." Jacob also made a vow that if God did keep his promise, to bless him and return him to this land, then the LORD would truly be his God and he would give a 10th of his gifts to God.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- God repeated to Jacob the promises he had originally made to Abraham and then to Isaac. God had specifically chosen Jacob over Esau prior to their birth (Genesis 25:23) and now put his blessing on Jacob. The line of God's chosen people had passed from Abraham through Isaac (not Ishmael) to Jacob (and not Esau).
- Bethel was the same location where Abraham and Lot had separated because of the quarrels between their servants. It was also here that God made the same promises to Abraham (see Genesis 13:14-17).
- Jesus, in his dialogue with Nathanael in John 1:51, alluded to Jacob's dream.

Jacob's Dream

- I. During his journey, Jacob stopped in a certain place outdoors.
 - A. He used a stone for a pillow and slept.
 - B. He dreamed about a staircase from earth to heaven and saw angels ascending and descending on it.
 - C. God appeared above the stairway and granted Jacob and his descendants the land where he was sleeping.
 - D. God also promised to bless his offspring, to be with Jacob and to return Jacob to his homeland someday.
- II. Jacob awoke and believed he had truly heard God.
 - A. He used the stone for a pillar.
 - B. He named the place Bethel and promised to be faithful if God kept his promise.

ANSWER KEY:

your, father, will, give, descendants, land, lying, descendants, like, dust, earth, will, spread, out, west, east, north, south, peoples, earth, blessed, through, offspring, wherever

He set up the stone as a pillar. He poured oil on it and named the place Bethel, "House of God."



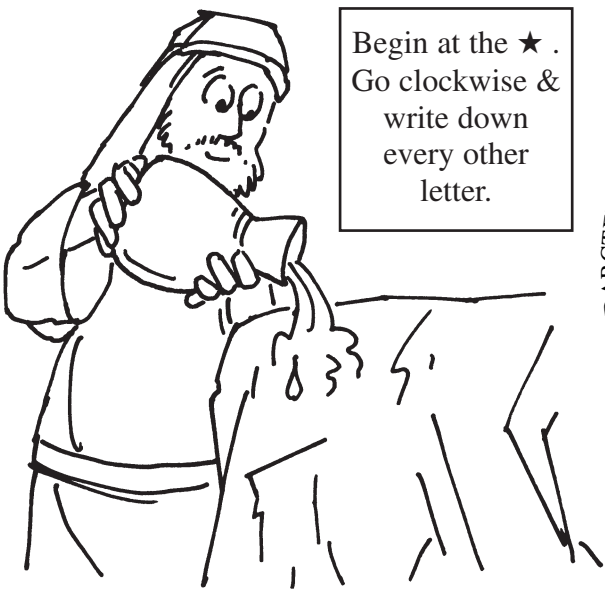
Jacob left Beersheba and headed for Haran. He traveled as far as he could, then stopped for the night. He put a stone under his head, lay down and went to sleep. Jacob had a dream

Use the code to find the answer.

⊕ = A	† = H	▽ = O	✕ = V
✓ = B	* = I	◐ = P	☆ = W
✈ = C	▲ = J	♥ = Q	× = X
♣ = D	★ = K	○ = R	■ = Y
∟ = E	* = L	* = S	⇨ = Z
⊗ = F	● = M	⊕ = T	
📎 = G	◇ = N	□ = U	

“I am the LORD, the God of _____
 Abraham and the God of Isaac. I _____
 you and your _____ the
 _____ on which you are _____ . Your
 _____ will be _____ the
 _____ of the _____ , and you _____ to
 the _____ and to the _____ , to the _____ and to the _____ . All
 _____ on _____ will be _____
 you and your _____ . I am with you ...
 _____ you go”

When Jacob woke up, he felt he must have been in God’s house! What did Jacob do?



★

Name _____

Jacob had a dream about God's promises to Abraham and Isaac.
God promised Jacob that He would return him to the Promised Land.

Follow the path to
the stairway in
Jacob's dream.



Name _____