

## ***Recovery Version, note on Genesis 28:12***

Jacob's dream is a most crucial point in this book, and vv. 10-22 unveil the most crucial matter in the revelation of God. God desires to have a house on earth, and His intention is to transform His called ones into stones, material for His building. In the account of Jacob's dream, the stone, the pillar, the house of God, and the oil are outstanding items. The stone symbolizes Christ as the foundation stone, the top stone, and the cornerstone for God's building. It also symbolizes the transformed man, who has been constituted with Christ as the transforming element to be the material for the building of God's house, which is the church today and which will consummate in the New Jerusalem as the eternal dwelling place of God and His redeemed elect. In v. 11 a stone was used by Jacob for a pillow, signifying that the very divine element of Christ constituted into our being through our subjective experience of Him becomes a pillow for our rest. After awaking from his dream, Jacob set up the pillow-stone as a pillar, signifying that the Christ who has been wrought into us and on whom we rest becomes the material and the support for God's building, God's house. Eventually, Jacob poured oil, a symbol of the Spirit as the consummation of the Triune God reaching man, on the pillar, symbolizing that the transformed man is one with the Triune God and expresses Him. That stone became Bethel, the house of God. God's house is the mutual dwelling place of God and His redeemed—man as God's dwelling place and God as man's dwelling place. Hence, the house of God is constituted of God and man mingled together as one. In God's house God expresses Himself in humanity, and both God and man find mutual and eternal satisfaction and rest.

This ladder is the center, the focus, of Jacob's dream. This dream is a revelation of Christ, for Christ is the reality of the ladder that Jacob saw. Christ as the Son of Man, in His humanity, is the ladder that brings heaven (God) to earth (man) and joins earth and heaven as one. Our regenerated spirit, which is God's dwelling place today, is the base on earth where Christ as the heavenly ladder has been set up. Hence, whenever we turn to our spirit, we experience Christ as the ladder bringing God to us and us to God. Where this ladder is, there are an open heaven, the transformed man, the anointing upon this man, and the building up of the house of God with this man. The issue of Christ as the heavenly ladder is Bethel, the church, the Body of Christ, and the consummation of this ladder is the New Jerusalem.

## ***The Jesus Bible, note on Genesis 28:10-22***

Fleeing to Harran to escape his brother's wrath, Jacob stopped for the night. Jacob dreamed that a stairway stretched from heaven to earth, with angels ascending and descending the heavenly staircase. The picture portrayed the grand, cosmic reality of life on this earth. While it may seem that all that is real is that which can be seen, there is an eternal heavenly world closely connected to this one. The heavenly realm is consistently interacting with this world in ways that lie beyond what the human mind can comprehend and the human eye can see.

Jesus' birth would bring this reality into greater focus. The fully divine and human Son of God would serve as the ladder between heaven and earth. At his baptism, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God descended on the Son of God, indicating his divine status and God-ordained mission. In Jesus, heaven met earth, and with him came glimpses of the coming kingdom as the lame walked, the blind regained sight and prisoners gained freedom. At the incarnation, the Son of God descended the heavenly staircase in order to usher sinful humanity into the kingdom of God.