

# GENESIS

Why The Beginning Matters

STUDY 19

JACOB AND THE  
UNFOLDING OF GOD'S  
PLAN

GENESIS 26-28



# *GENESIS 26*

The Covenant is passed on

# ISAAC PARALLELS ABRAHAM'S JOURNEY

Famine

Abimelechs land

Isaac's Lie

Isaac's Prosperity

Covenant Renewal

Treaty with Abimelech

## *COVENANT RENEWAL*

Genesis 26:24–25 And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, “I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will bless you and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham’s sake.” 25 So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac’s servants dug a well.

# *GENESIS 27*

The Blessing

# Divine Sovereignty: Overturn Primogeniture

Genesis 25:22–23 (ESV) The children struggled together within her, and she said, “If it is thus, why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. 23 And the LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger.”

## HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

Genesis 25:33–34 (ESV) Jacob said, “Swear to me now.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

# HOW DID THE PARENTS RESPOND TO THE PROPHECY?



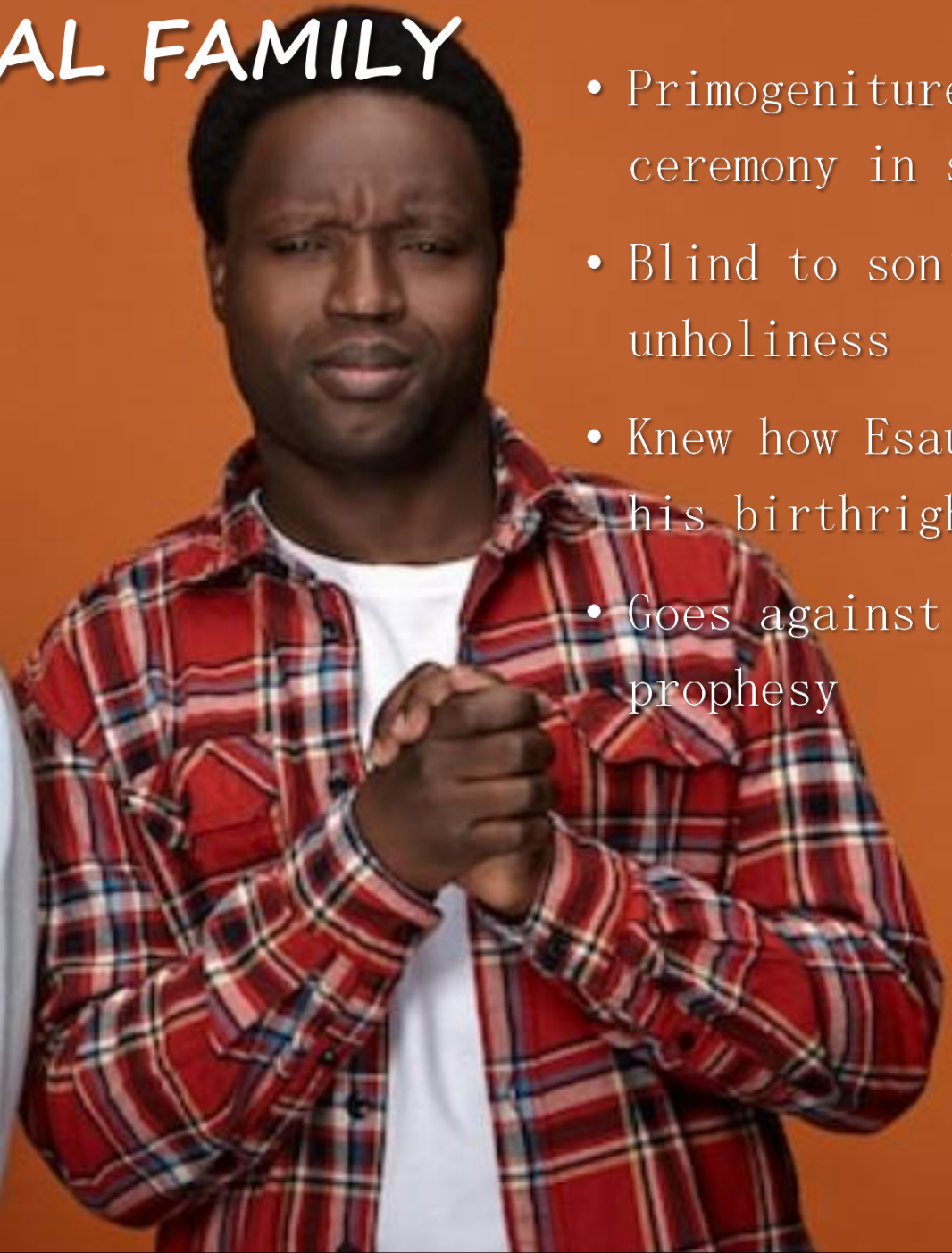


## UNGODLY ESAU

Genesis 26:34–35 (ESV) When Esau was forty years old, he took Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite to be his wife, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite, 35 and they made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah.

# THE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY DECEIT

- Favouritism
- Conspired to defraud Esau



- Primogeniture ceremony in secret
- Blind to son's unholiness
- Knew how Esau sold his birthright
- Goes against the prophecy

## WHAT IS IN THE BLESSING?

Genesis 27:28–29 ESV May God give you of the dew of heaven and of the fatness of the earth and plenty of grain and wine. 29 Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you.

Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be everyone who blesses you

# GENESIS 12 COVENANT

Great Land

Great Nation

Great Blessing

# NATURE OF BLESSING



1. Legal last will and testament
2. Deep Spiritual discernment
3. Affirmation and empowerment
4. Prophecy?

**HEBREWS 11:20-22**  
**BLESSING IS ACT OF FAITH OF PATRIARCH**

20 By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.

21 By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.

22 By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

# *GOD'S SOVEREIGN CHOICE*

- Isaac instead of Ishmael
- Jacob instead of Esau
- Judah over his three older brothers
- David instead of his 7 older brothers
- Jephthah (illegitimate son)
- Gideon - youngest son

# GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY VS HUMAN FREE WILL

Fear-His own scheme against the prophecy thwarted  
He stops fighting God now accepts God's grace on Jacob  
Isaac fulfilled God's will by his own unintentional choice



Genesis 27:33 (ESV) Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, “Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.”



# ISAAC REALIZES GOD'S COVENANT IS WITH JACOB



He cannot fight it as he freely dispensed blessing out of his own selfish will

Genesis 28:3-4 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!”



# DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY USES FREE WILL

Genesis 50:20 (ESV) As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

## ESAU ASKS FOR BLESSING RETRACTION BUT GETS THIS

Genesis 27:39–40 “Behold, away from the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be, and away from the dew of heaven on high. 40 By your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother; but when you grow restless you shall break his yoke from your neck

# HUMAN FREE WILL AND RESPONSIBILITY

## CONSEQUENCES OF DECEIT



The end does not justify the means

Genesis 27:41 Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob

## RIFT BETWEEN MOTHER AND SON

Genesis 28:6 Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan- aram to take a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he directed him, “You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women,” 7 and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and gone to Paddan- aram. 8 So when Esau saw that the Canaanite women did not please Isaac his father, 9 Esau went to Ishmael and took as his wife, besides the wives he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth

# HUMAN FREE WILL AND RESPONSIBILITY

## CONSEQUENCES OF DECEIT



- Jacob exile
- Genesis 27:42 But the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son and said to him, “Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself about you by planning to kill you
- She would never again see Jacob

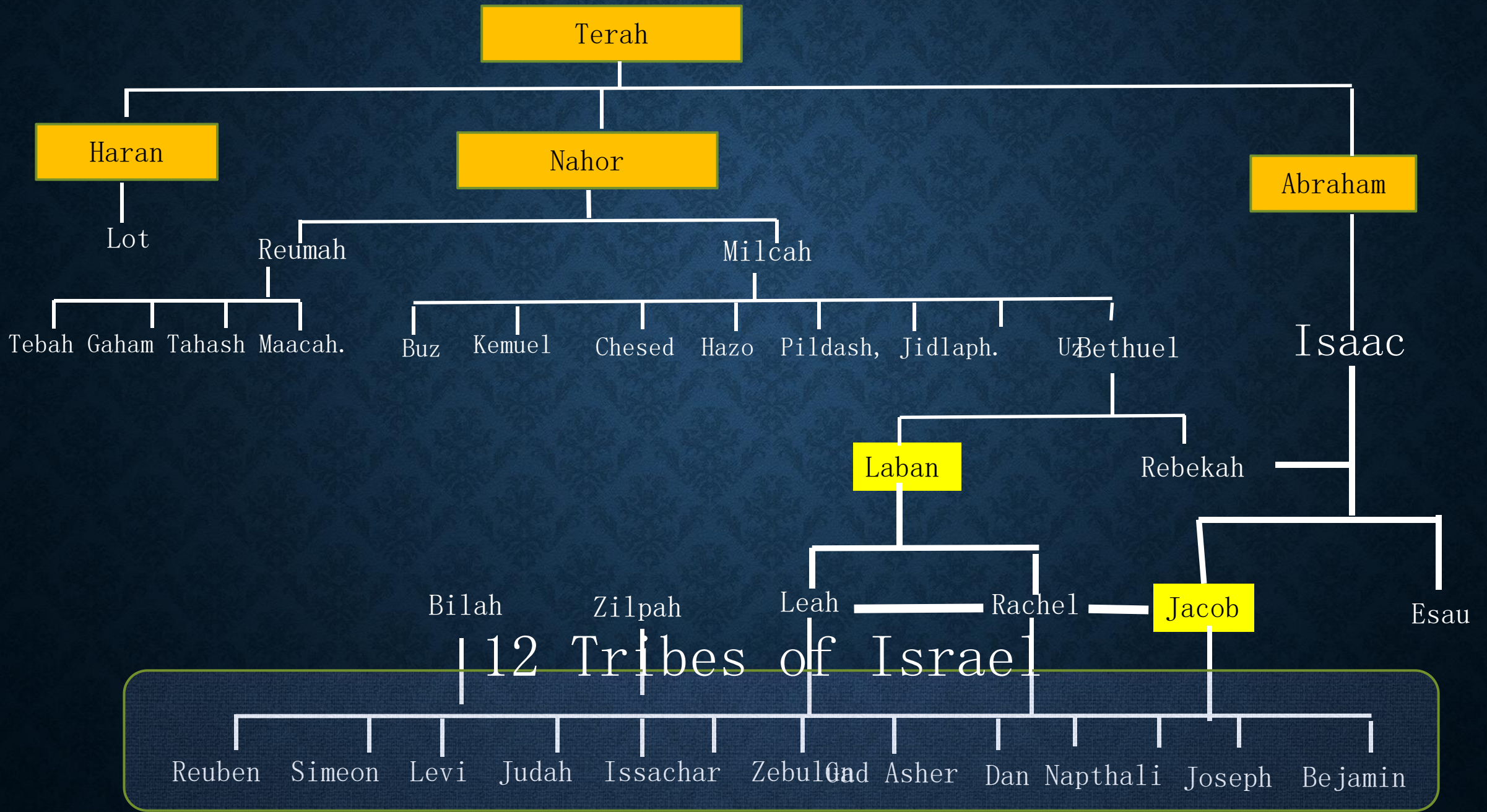
# HUMAN FREE WILL AND RESPONSIBILITY

## CONSEQUENCES OF DECEIT



- Stole birth right and blessing
- Exile and years of suffering.. moulds his character

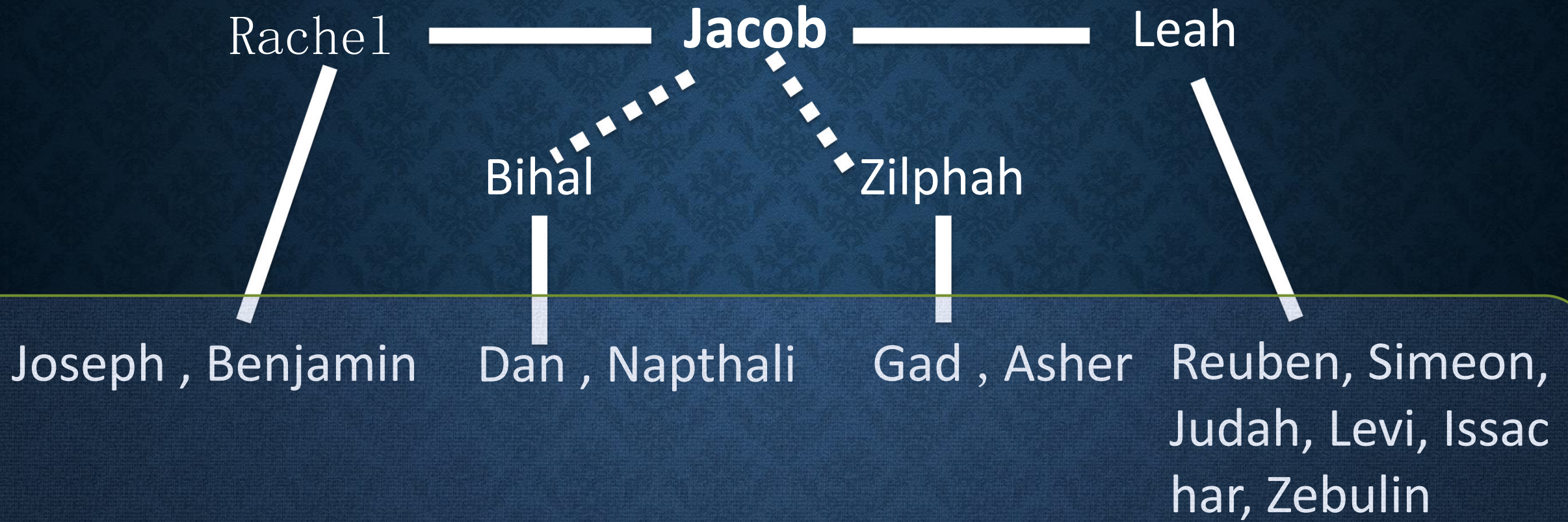
JACOB WITH LABAN'S FLOCK - JUSEPE DE RIBERA - C.1632





# JACOB AND LABAN





# 12 Tribes of Israel

# LESSONS LEARNED

- Sovereignty of God and Sin
- Jesus dresses up as us and got our curse so when we believe in Him we get the first born blessing.

# *GENESIS 28*

Jacob' s dream  
From Deception to Destiny

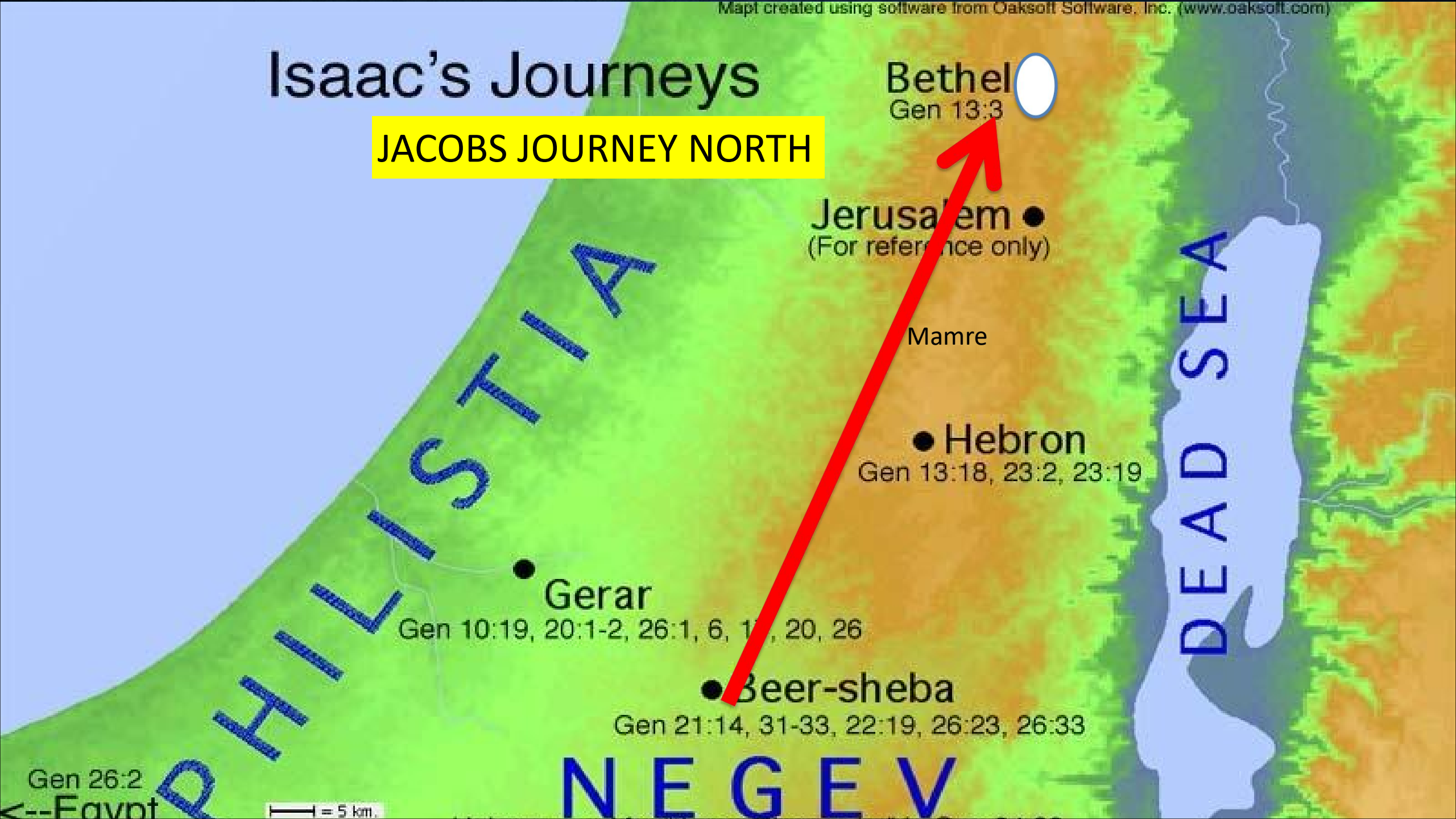
# *JACOB'S DREAM: FROM DECEPTION TO DESTINY*

- A. God comes to us when we are at our lowest
- B. God's blessings and God's promises are inseparable.
- C. God's transformation enables us to receive His blessings

Genesis 28: 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

# Isaac's Journeys

JACOBS JOURNEY NORTH



# MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

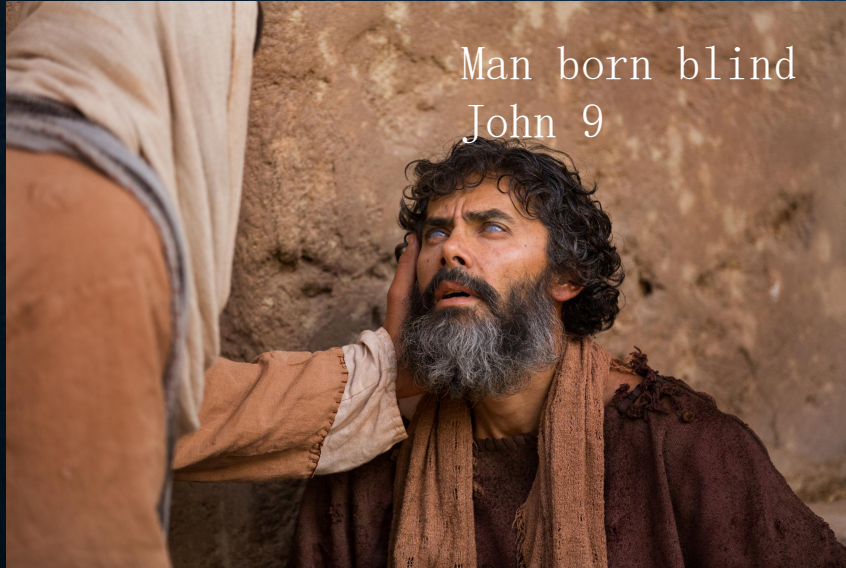
Was the blessing real?  
Did I play my cards right?  
Was there another way  
Suffering is only for the bad people.





Job

<https://www.christcitychurch.ie/suffering-well-lessons-from-the-book-of-job/>



Man born blind  
John 9



Joseph



Suffering shows up where  
our treasure lies

Mad or Sad

Psalm 39: 11 When you discipline a man with rebukes for sin, you consume like a moth what is dear to him; surely all mankind is a mere breath!

Selah

# HOW SATAN ASSAULTS THE GLORY OF GOD IN OUR LIVES

Pleasure

God is unnecessary

Pain

God is powerless

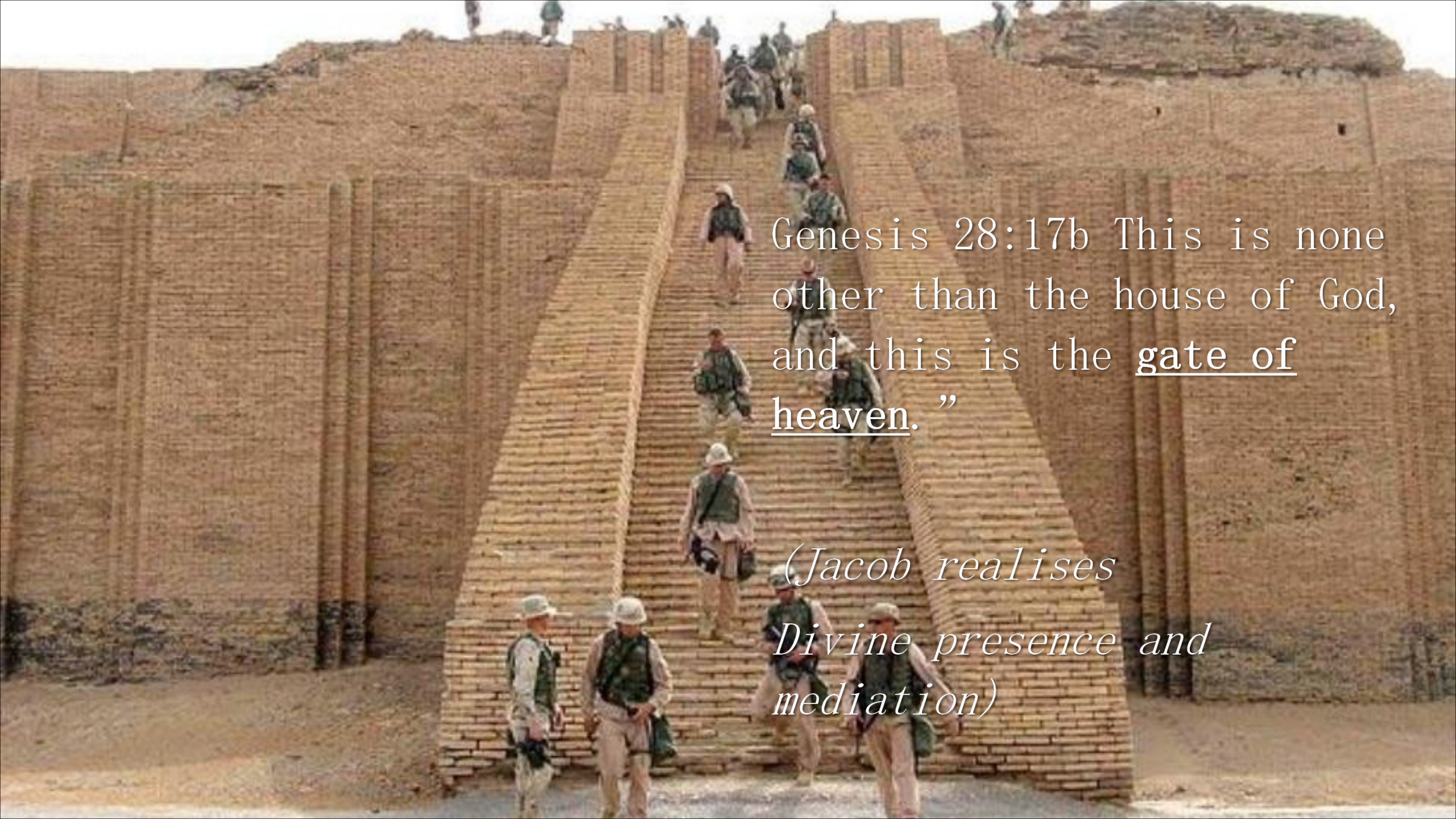
God does not love us

Genesis 28:12-13 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!



Hebrew : Ramp.. Stairway



A wide, ancient stone staircase leads up a massive brick wall. Several people, some on horseback, are walking up and down the stairs. The scene is set in a dry, arid environment.

Genesis 28:17b This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

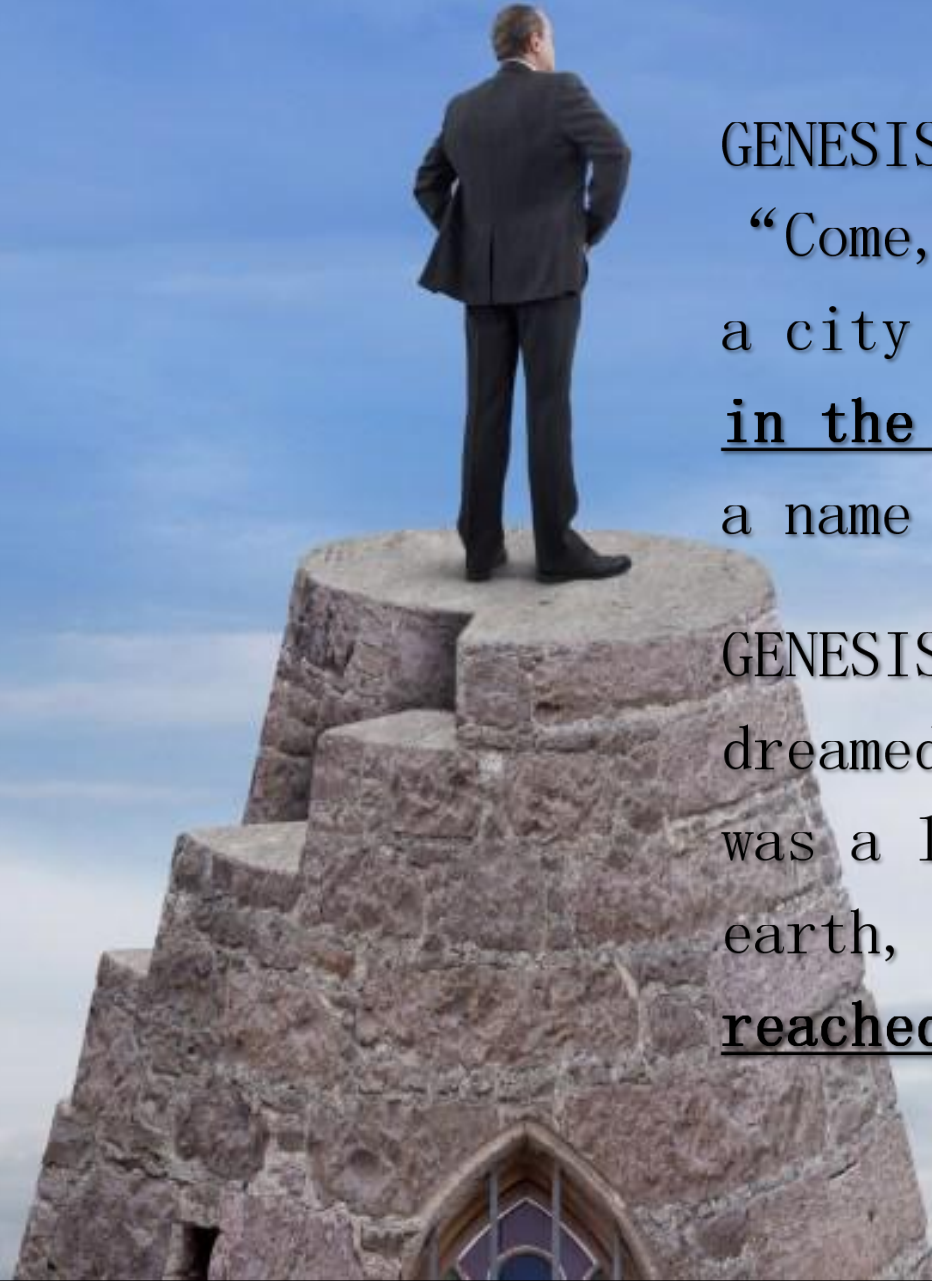
*(Jacob realises  
Divine presence and  
mediation)*



PORTAL



# Similar language for Babel



GENESIS 11: 4 Then they said,  
“Come, let us build ourselves  
a city and a tower with its top  
in the heavens, and let us make  
a name for ourselves

GENESIS 28: 12a And he  
dreamed, and behold, there  
was a ladder set up on the  
earth, and the top of it  
reached to heaven.



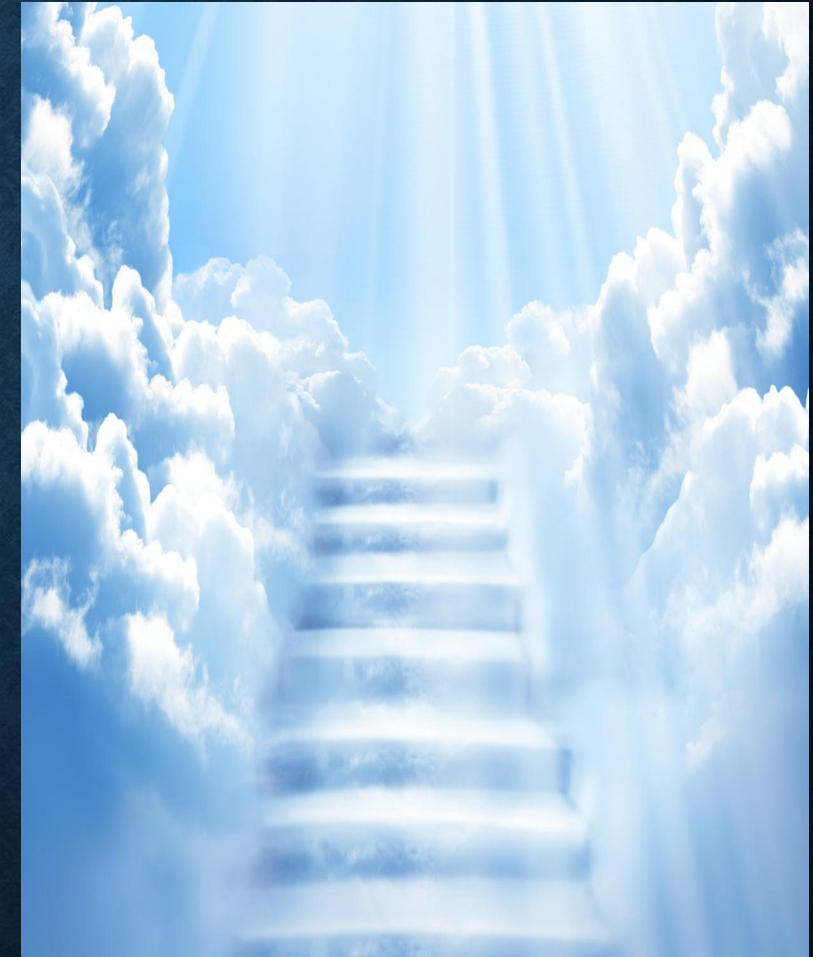


# Man Made Religion



- Contact established by man
- Man seeks to reach up to the heavens.. Babel
- Contact established by God
- God seeks to reach down to the earth.. God will embrace and renew world

# Divine Revelation





## 2. ANGELS

- Messengers
- Royal decrees
- Business between heaven and earth
- God's purposes being fulfilled

### 3. GODS VERY PRESENCE

The Hebrew word – “over him” ,

Genesis 28: 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.

Covenantal faithfulness

# *THE BLESSING : COVENANTAL PROMISES*

Genesis 28:13-15 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.

# *DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OR HOLD BACK*

Genesis 28: 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.”



# SIGNIFICANCE

Mistakes do not define  
our limits, Fear does

God's Grace and  
covenantal faithfulness  
banishes fear

# ABRAHAM

Married and  
childless  
Living in Ur

HE KNOWS WHEN TO INTERVENE

<https://ekurd.net/myth-non-jewish-abraham-2019-03-13>

God visits at High point of his life

# JACOB

UnMarried and  
childless

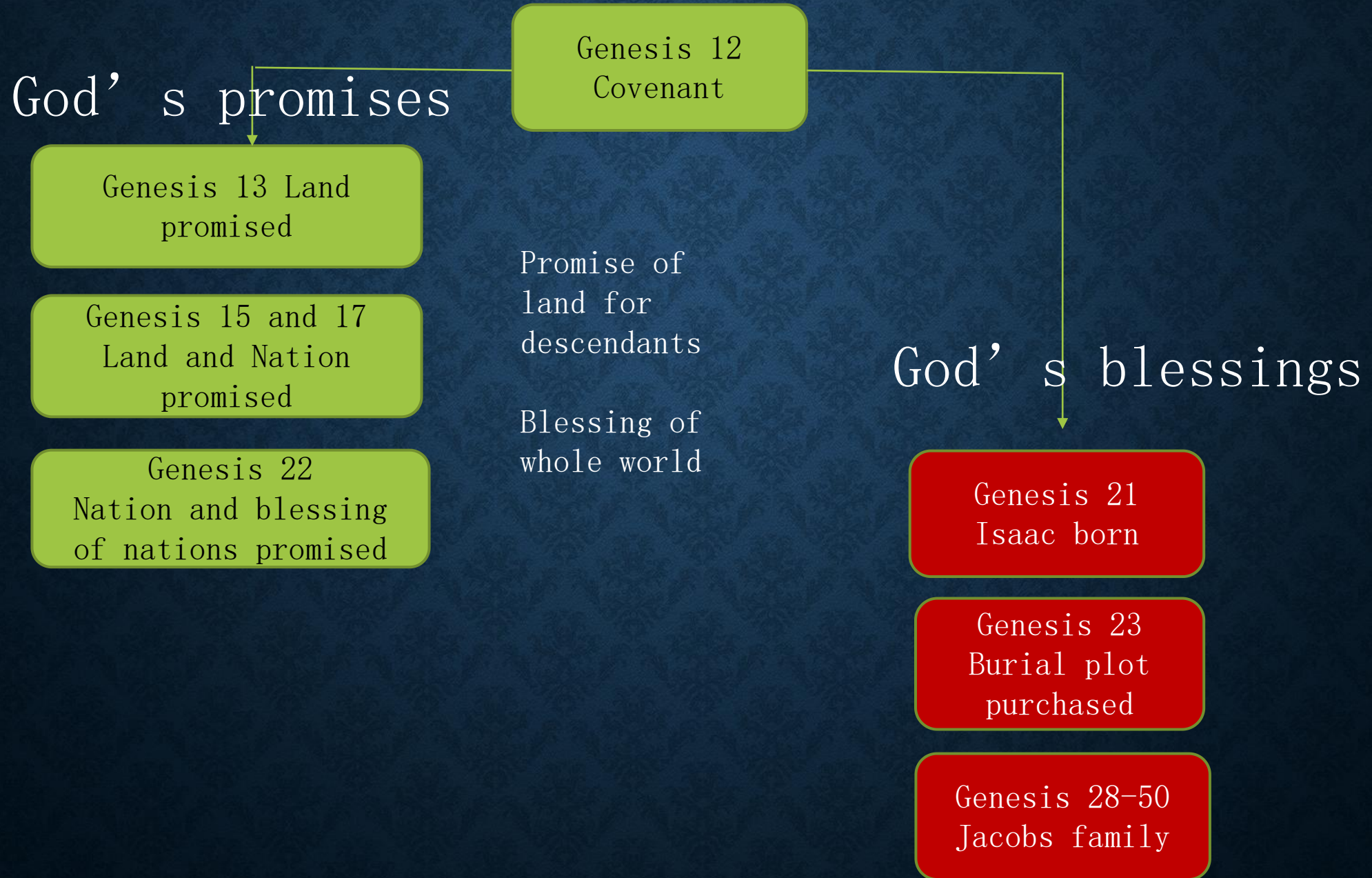
HE KNOWS WHEN TO INTERVENE

[https://www.artble.com/artists/jusepe\\_de\\_ribera/paintings/jacob%27s\\_dream](https://www.artble.com/artists/jusepe_de_ribera/paintings/jacob%27s_dream)

God visits at low point of his life



# B. GOD'S BLESSINGS AND GOD'S PROMISES ARE INSEPARABLE



# WORSHIP IS HEARING FROM GOD AND RESPONDING TO HIM

Genesis 28:16–19 (ESV) 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

# 1. JACOB'S RESPONSE IS TRANSACTIONAL

## GOD

God's offer is unconditional

13b 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.”

## JACOB

Jacob's response is conditional

20 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.”

## 2. JACOBS RESPONSE IS SELF CENTERED

How God will use Jacob as a blessing to others

- 1) The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.
- 2) 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,
- 3) and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed

Jacobs promises

- 1) “If God will be with me. . .” (v. 20a);
- 2) “give me food . . . clothes” (v. 20b); and
- 3) “I return safely to my father’ s house

## 2. JACOBS RESPONSE IS SELF CENTERED

How God will use Jacob as a blessing to others

- 1) The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.
- 2) 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,
- 3) and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed



Jacob ignored

### 3. JACOBS RESPONSE IS PRESUMPTIOUS AND MANIPULATIVE

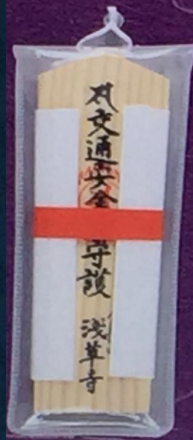
The asaiity of God

Jacobs promises

- 1) “the LORD will be my God” (v. 21b);
- 2) recognition of “God’ s house” (v. 22a);
- 3) “I will give you a tenth” (v. 22b).

# JAPANESE TEMPLE





⑩  
交通安全(白木)  
Car Charm  
800円



⑨  
交通安全(房付)  
Car Charm  
800円



⑧  
蓮弁守  
Good Health and Cure of illness  
and Long Life  
2,000円



⑦  
交通安全守  
Traffic Safety  
1,000円



⑥  
厄除守  
Ward off Evil  
1,000円



⑤  
心願  
Wishes  
1,000円



⑱  
安産守  
Healthy Birth  
1,000円



⑱  
学業守  
Education & Learnig  
500円



<表>



<裏>

⑰  
雷門合格守  
Pass exams  
1,000円



<緑>



<ピンク>

⑰  
良縁守  
Relationship Good Luck  
各 800円



## SIGNS OF TRANSACTIONAL FAITH

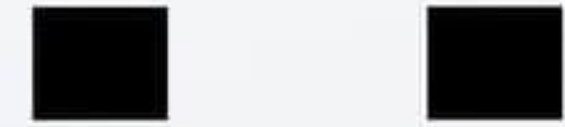
- Anger or Disappointment when it does not go your way
- Prayer life dominated by needs
- Commitment leveraged to fulfil our desires
- Guilt - You wonder if God is punishing you when something bad happens
- You think God demands excellence in all things
- You are doing instead of being
- Faith becomes a tool
- Assumes you are in co-equal relationship
- Blessings become a right

# SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

*of* LOUISVILLE  
*est 2012*

Charles Joseph Mahaney





Better than I  
deserve



*C.J. Mahaney*



## YEARS LATER ..BACK TO BETHEL

Genesis 35: 1 God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau.” 2 So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments. 3 Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone

# BETHEL IS ABOUT TRANSFORMATION

- Place became a shrine
- Stone became an altar,
- Fugitive became a pilgrim
- Pilgrim became a Patriarch
- Patriarch became a nation
- Nation became the kingdom of God

# CHALLENGE

To make Jacob's dream our reality

# TRANSFORMATION NOT PERFORMANCE

John 1: 51 And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”



# THE PORTAL





~~Beth Eden~~ the house of  
~~Notre Dame~~ God (Hosea)

Destroyed by  
Josiah (2  
Kings 23:15)





## HARRIET TUBMAN

*“Every great dream  
begins with a dreamer.  
Always remember, you  
have within you the  
strength, the patience,  
and the passion to reach  
for the stars to change  
the world.”*

Tubman said she would listen carefully to the voice of God as she led slaves north, and she would only go where she felt God was leading her.



God mother Aretha Franklin

Cousin Dionne  
Warwick

Mother Cissy Houston Gospel Singer



FROM GHETTO TO SUPERSTARS



"Sister & The Sisters"

The brothers who built them up  
and brought them down

Featuring the sensational music of  
**CURTIS MAYFIELD**

SPARKLE • Starring PHILIP M. THOMAS • IRENE CARA • LONETTE McKEE • DWAN SMITH

MARY ALICE • DORIAN HAREWOOD • Also TONY KING as Sam

Produced by HOWARD ROSENMAN • Directed by SAM O'STEEN • Screenplay by JOEL SCHUMACHER • Story by JOEL SCHUMACHER and HOWARD ROSENMAN • Executive Producers BERYL VERTUE and PETER BROWN • Music by CURTIS MAYFIELD • TECHNICOLOR®

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED

Music from the motion picture "Sparkle" sung by Aretha Franklin  
available on Atlantic Records and Tapes.

From Warner Bros. A Warner Communications Company



A close-up photograph of a woman with voluminous, dark brown, curly hair. She has a wide-eyed, shocked, or terrified expression on her face. She is wearing a thick, light brown fur collar around her neck. Her right hand is raised to her ear, holding a large, ornate diamond ring. The background is blurred, suggesting she is in a car, with a steering wheel visible in the lower right corner.

**DREAM  
BECOMES A  
NIGHTMARE**

Source -  
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/480759328967415635/>

Beth-El - the  
house of God

Beth-aven - the house of  
Nothingness

What will you  
do with the  
blessing

