

## GOD'S GOOD NEWS - IN A DREAM

Genesis 28:12, 13a, 15

*<sup>12</sup> And he [Jacob] dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to Heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. <sup>13a</sup> And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, "I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: ... <sup>15</sup> And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land: for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.*

***There are ministering angels, guardian angels, that are active in good works in this present world.***

Jacob saw angels ascending and descending: going to God with man's prayers and needs, and coming back with God's loving guidance and protection.

There are ministering angels, guardian angels, that are active in good works in this present world. They are mentioned often in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. For example, angels appeared to Hagar, Joshua, Gideon, and Peter. And the writer of Hebrews states, "*Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*"

(Hebrews 1:14)

In *Hebrews 13:2* it says: *Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*

Jacob's consolation is ours also. The Bible tells us angels guide, strengthen, and defend us. They are near in these days when unbelief, uncleanness, carnality and mockery abound. We must have faith and a spiritual interest in



them. (Not just a curiosity about them!)

One Christian woman says that an early memory she treasures is that of her grandmother singing to her at the close of the day: "Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber -- Holy angels guard thy bed." (To the tune of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.")

After Jacob saw the angels - he saw God! When Moses saw the face of God, his face reflected the Shekinah Glory! Jacob saw God, only in a dream, but it was so great that it caused Jacob to hallow this place where he was given this vision forever after.

It has been promised - as an excellent- reward - that the pure in heart will see God. A songwriter has said: "Just one glimpse of Him in Glory, will the toils of life repay."

God grant each of us a revelation -- if not of His face, then of His Presence at the end of the pathway from earth to Heaven - watching us, concerned about us.

Our Scripture tells us that even though He

***Even in this day, this hour, He hears those who call upon Him, and will answer.***

is surrounded by angelic music and hosts of angels around the throne, He still heard the

cry from His prophet Isaiah and sent an angel with a coal of fire for his cleansing. (Isaiah 6:5-7)

Even so occupied with the affairs of the universe, He revealed Himself to a lonely Jacob.

Even in this day, this hour, He hears those who call upon Him, and will answer. Jacob not only saw angels and saw God



An angel bringing a coal of fire to the prophet Isaiah.

standing in Heaven. He was given the definite assurance that God would go with him, would keep him, and would bring him again to the place where he should be.

What inexpressible consolation to a homesick traveler!

Jacob was away from family and friends, but not away from his God. He was under Covenant care. Jacob knew the meaning of the words his descendent, David, wrote:

*Psalms 139:9-11: <sup>9</sup>"If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; <sup>10</sup> Even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me. <sup>11</sup> If I say surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me."*

***We can never go beyond the place of His knowledge or His Presence.***

May God grant this insight to us as we continue -- pilgrims through this land that is not our real home. We can never go beyond the place of His knowledge or His Presence.

And oh ... the Ladder -- that which united the earth with Heaven, making communication possible, is a symbol of our Redeemer! In John 1:51 we read, ***"Verily, verily I say unto you, 'Hereafter ye shall see Heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'"*** Jesus Christ, the Intermediary between man and God. Jesus Christ, interceding for us, and bringing God's message to us. Jesus Christ, showing us God incarnate, and promising to be with us wherever we go - even until the end of the age.

**Jesus Christ - the ladder ----- the WAY.**

