

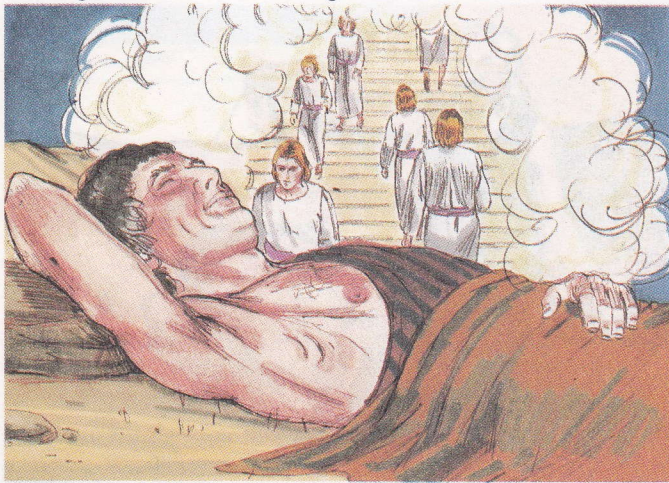
Jacob's Trip to Haran



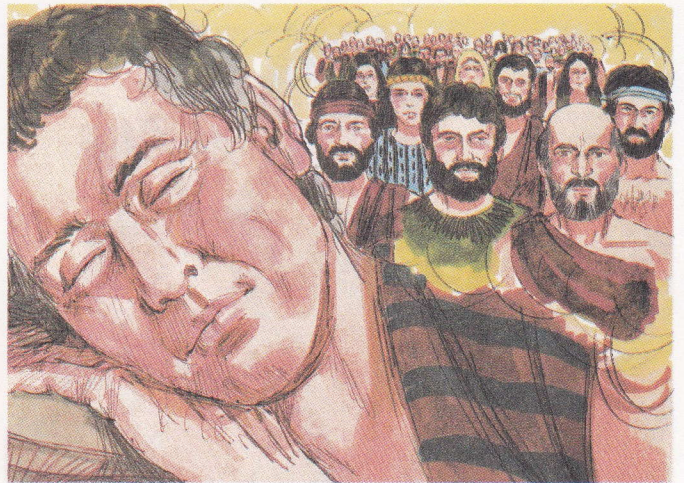
1 Esau, angry with Jacob for stealing his blessing, planned to kill him. So Isaac and Rebekah sent Jacob away to Haran. There he would be safe, and he could get a wife from among their relatives.



2 After his first day's journey, Jacob stopped to camp for the night. He lay down to sleep, using a stone as a pillow. And then he had a dream.



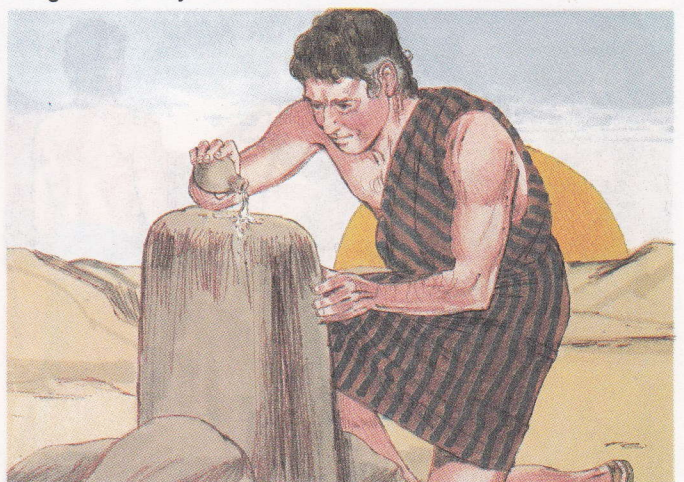
3 In his dream he saw a stairway reaching from earth to heaven, with angels going up and down on it. And there was the Lord, standing before him!



4 The Lord promised Jacob many descendants, as he had promised his father Isaac and his grandfather Abraham. God promised also to be with Jacob and bring him safely to the land of Canaan.



5 Then Jacob awoke and said, "The Lord is in this place, and I didn't know it. This place must be the house of God; it must be the gate that opens into heaven."



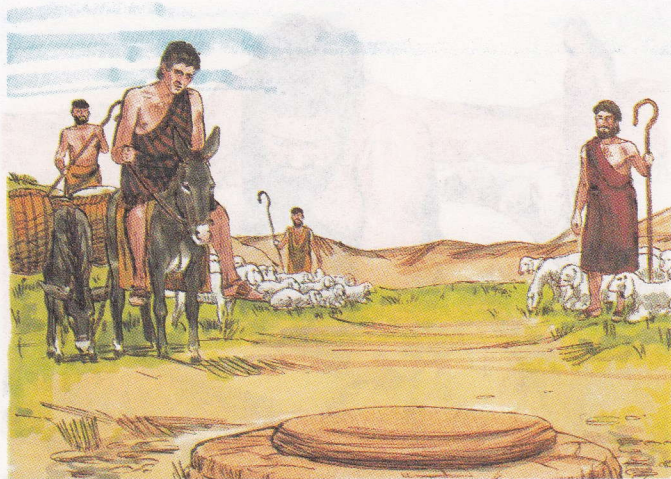
6 The next morning Jacob took the stone he had used as a pillow and set it up as a memorial. He poured oil on the stone to dedicate it to God. Jacob named the place Bethel, which means "House of God."



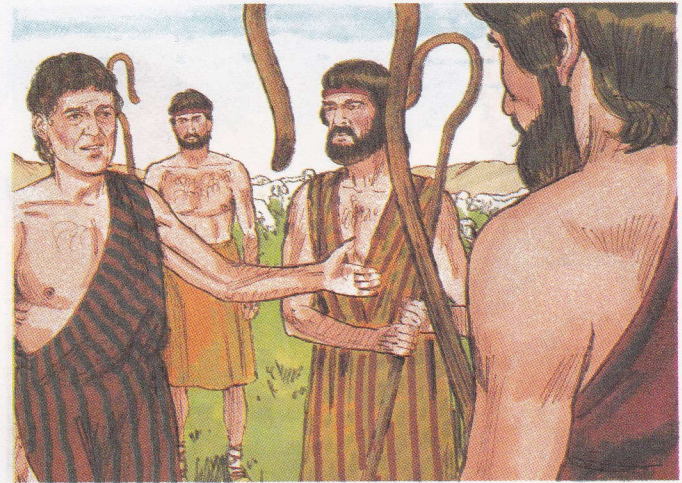
7 Then Jacob made a vow to God. "If you will be with me and protect me on this journey so that I return safely to my father's home, then you will be my God."



8 "This memorial stone which I have set up will be the place where you are worshiped, and I will give you a tenth of everything you give me."



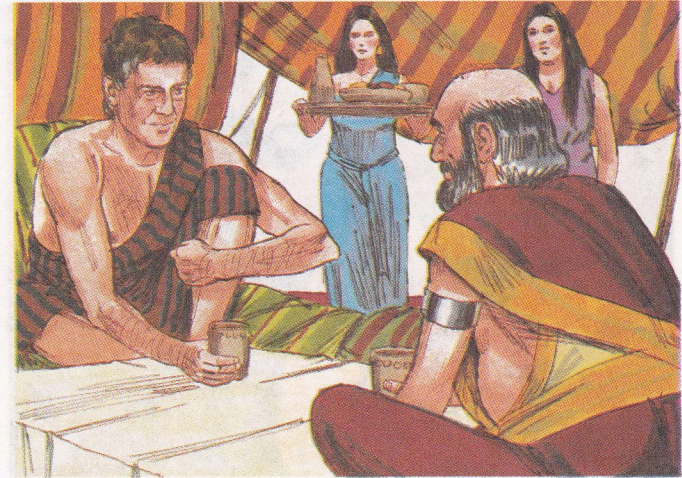
9 Then Jacob started his trip again. One day he came to a well which was covered with a large stone. There were three flocks of sheep lying in the fields around the well.



10 When Jacob talked with the shepherds there, he found out that they were from Haran and knew his uncle Laban.



11 While Jacob was still talking to the shepherds, Laban's daughter Rachel arrived with her flock. Jacob moved away the stone from the well so that she could water her father's flocks.



12 He told her he was her relative, the son of Rebekah. She ran to tell her father, who welcomed his nephew into his home. Jacob stayed there quite a while.