

Study Guide for May 30th, 2010: Genesis 28:10-22 The Dream and The Reality.

Introduction: Describe a time you came to realize that God was “with you” even though initially you thought you were “alone.”

I. Encounter with God: (Gen. 28:10-15)

A. Arrival: (vs. 10-11)

1. Where does Jacob leave from? What is he leaving behind?
2. Where is Jacob heading? What does he hope to find?
3. List some words to describe Jacob’s physical and mental state? Note the time.
4. What does Jacob use as a pillow? What becomes of this later?

B. Dream: (vs. 12-13a)

1. Jacob sees three things in his dream. What are they?
2. What might be the significance of each element of the dream?
3. How does this passage inform the following texts? Ps. 91:11-12, John 1:49-51.

C. Pronouncement: (vs. 13b-15)

1. How does God identify himself to Jacob?
2. What does God promise to give to Jacob and to do for him?
3. What is the extent (outer limits) of God’s promises to Jacob?
4. Note the similar promises God makes to his people in the following texts.

a) Psalm 23:

b) Psalm 121:

c) Is. 43:1-3:

d) Matt. 28:20:

II. Response to God: (Gen. 28:16-22)

A. Responding to the place: (vs. 16-17)

1. What emotions are attributed to Jacob after he woke up from the dream?
2. What does Jacob come to realize?
3. Note the similar response to the awareness of being in God’s presence in . . .

a) Judges 13:8-23:

b) Is. 6:1-7:

c) Luke 5:1-11:

B. Responding to the Dream: (vs. 18-19)

1. What does Jacob do with the stone? Why is this action significant?
2. What does Jacob name the place? What was its former name?

C. Responding to the Pronouncement: (vs. 20-22)

1. What does Jacob vow in response to God’s pronouncement?
2. Would you describe Jacob’s vow as a statement of faith? Why or why not?
3. What is significant about Jacob’s pledge to return 10% of all that God gives?