

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction,
so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Genesis 27

42 When the words of her older son Esau were relayed to Rebekah, she sent for her younger son Jacob and told him,

“Look, your brother Esau is consoling himself by plotting to kill you.

43 So now, my son, obey my voice and flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran.

Genesis 27

44 Stay with him for a while, until your brother's fury subsides— 45 until your brother's rage against you wanes and he forgets what you have done to him.

Then I will send for you and bring you back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?"

46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because of these Hittite women.

If Jacob takes a Hittite wife from among them, what good is my life?"

Genesis 28

1 So Isaac called for Jacob and blessed him. “Do not take a wife from the Canaanite women,” he commanded.

2 “Go at once to Paddan-aram, to the house of your mother’s father Bethuel, and take a wife from among the daughters of Laban, your mother’s brother.

Genesis 28

3 May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, so that you may become a company of peoples.

4 And may He give the blessing of Abraham to you and your descendants, so that you may possess the land where you dwell as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham.”

5 So Isaac sent Jacob to Paddan-aram, to Laban son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.



Asia Minor

Armenia

Haran

• Haran

Paddan Aram

• Nineveh

Syria

• Damascus

• Jerusalem

Bethel

BeerSheba

Mesopotamia

Assyria

Media

Elam

Persia

Egypt

**The
Old Testament
World**

• Babylon

• Ur

• Susa

• Memphis

ML Sinai

Genesis 28

10 Meanwhile Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran.

11 On reaching a certain place, he spent the night there because the sun had set. And taking one of the stones from that place, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

12 And Jacob had a dream about a ladder that rested on the earth with its top reaching up to heaven, and God's angels were going up and down the ladder.

Genesis 28

13 And there at the top the LORD was standing and saying, “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac.

I will give you and your descendants the land on which you now lie.

14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and east and north and south.

All the families of the earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

Genesis 28

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All the families of the earth will be **blessed** through you and your **offspring**.

Genesis 28

15 Look, I am with you, and I will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

16 When Jacob woke up, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was unaware of it.”

17 And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven!”

Genesis 28

18 Early the next morning, Jacob took the stone that he had placed under his head, and he set it up as a pillar.

He poured oil on top of it, 19 and he called that place Bethel, though previously the city had been named Luz.

Genesis 28

20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and watch over me on this journey, and if He will provide me with food to eat and clothes to wear, 21 so that I may return safely to my father’s house, then the LORD will be my God.

22 And this stone I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give You a tenth.”

Genesis 28

12 And Jacob had a dream about a ladder that rested on the earth with its top reaching up to heaven, and God's angels were going up and down the ladder.

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Jacob's Ladder is a Picture of the Gospel



Galatians 3

6 So also, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

7 Understand, then, that those who have faith are the sons of Abraham.

8 The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and **preached the gospel** to Abraham: “**All nations will be blessed through you.**”

9 So those who have faith are **blessed** along with Abraham, the man of faith.

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Jacob's Ladder is a Picture of the Gospel



Galatians 1:6 I am amazed how quickly you are deserting the One who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

7 which is not even a gospel.

Evidently some people are troubling you and trying to distort the gospel of Christ.

8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be under a curse!

9 As we have said before, so now I say again:

If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you embraced, let him be under a curse!

THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is about Christ

It is not about us!

John 1

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him,

“We have found the One Moses wrote about in the Law, the One the prophets foretold—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

46“Can anything good come from Nazareth?”
Nathanael asked.

“Come and see,” said Philip.

John 1

47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, He said of him, “Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is no deceit.”

48 “How do You know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus replied, “Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree.”

49 “Rabbi,” Nathanael answered, “You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

John 1

50 Jesus said to him, “Do you believe just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.”

51 Then He declared, “Truly, truly, I tell you, you will see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

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on the Son of Man.”

Philippians 2

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man,

He humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.

Philippians 2

9 Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place
and gave Him the name above all names,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is about Christ

The Gospel is about what God Has Done

It is not about what we must do!

Genesis 11

4 They said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name,

1 Corinthians 15

1 Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, and in which you stand firm.

2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you.

Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4 that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

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THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is about Christ

The Gospel is about what God Has Done

The Gospel is God's Grace for Sinners

Not God's reward for good people!

Romans 9

10 Not only that, but Rebecca's children were conceived by one man, our father Isaac.

11 Yet before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad, in order that God's plan of election might stand, 12 not by works but by Him who calls, she was told,

“The older will serve the younger.”

13 So it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

Romans 9

16 So then, it does not depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is about Christ

The Gospel is about what God Has Done

The Gospel is God's Grace for Sinners

The Gospel is Hidden and Must be Revealed

Matthew 11

25 At that time Jesus declared, “I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.

26 Yes, Father, for this was well-pleasing in Your sight.

27 All things have been entrusted to Me by My Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son, and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him.

THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is about Christ

The Gospel is about what God Has Done

The Gospel is God's Grace for Sinners

The Gospel is Hidden and Must be Revealed

1. God saves people through a message
2. God uses people to preach that message
3. God must then 'unlock' that message

2 Corinthians 4

1 Therefore, since we have this ministry through the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.

2 Instead, we have renounced secret and shameful ways. We do not practice deceit, nor do we distort the word of God.

On the contrary, by open proclamation of the truth, we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

5 For we do not proclaim ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our dead bodies.

And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and unprayed for.

- Charles Spurgeon

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