

- c. He has a dream.
  - 1) He sees a ladder reaching from earth to heaven.
  - 2) Angels were going up and down the ladder.
  - 3) The Lord was at the top of the ladder.
  - 4) The Lord spoke to him (28:13-15), "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac. Many nations are going to come from you. The land is going to be given to you and your descendants. And through you the Messiah will come. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done everything I have promised."
- d. The Lord's promises to Jacob
  - 1) Promise of many descendants, many nations
  - 2) Promise of land
  - 3) Promise of Messiah through whom all the nations of the earth will be blessed
  - 4) The Lord will be with him and watch over him and bring him back to Bethel
- e. Jacob is astounded at what has happened.
- f. He called the name of the place Bethel ("house of God")
- iii. Life with Laban (29-31:55)
  - a. Meeting the family (29:1-14)
    - 1) Jacob leaves Bethel, crosses the Jordan river and goes onto Haran.
    - 2) He comes to the well outside of Haran - the well that Abraham's servant had been to.
    - 3) There are three flocks of sheep there.
    - 4) Jacob is wondering why the three flocks are there. Why not water them and get them out and let them pasture?
    - 5) He asks the shepherds and they say, "We can't do it because the well here belongs to Laban and we can't water our sheep until his sheep are watered."
    - 6) As they are talking, Rachel, one of Laban's daughters, comes with a flock of Laban's sheep.
    - 7) Jacob took one look at her and he was done.
    - 8) As soon as he saw her, he rolled the stone off the well to impress her.
    - 9) Jacob waters Rachel's father's sheep.
    - 10) He kisses Rachel and tells her that Laban is his uncle.