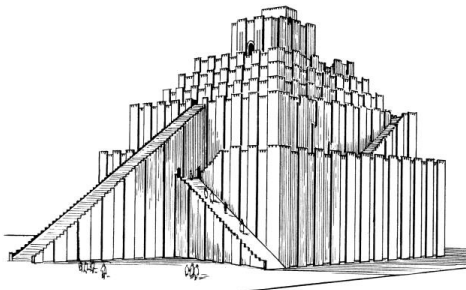
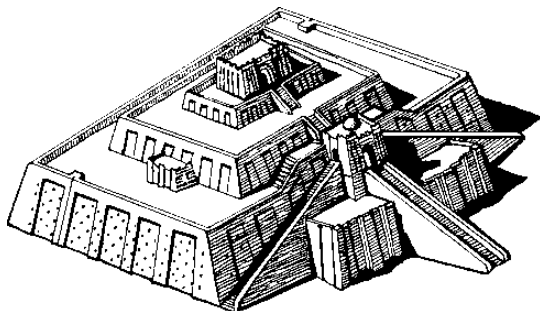


God With Us
Taylor Terzek
Genesis 28:10-22 (CSB)
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Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He reached a certain place and spent the night there because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from the place, put it there at his head, and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed: A stairway was set on the ground with its top reaching the sky, and God's angels were going up and down on it. ¹³ The LORD was standing there beside him, saying, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your offspring the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your offspring will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out toward the west, the east, the north, and the south. All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ Look, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go. 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 awoke from his sleep, he said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, "What an awesome place this is! This is none other than the house of God. This is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ Early in the morning Jacob took the stone that was near his head and set it up as a marker. He poured oil on top of it ¹⁹ and named the place Bethel, though previously the city was named Luz. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow: "If God will be with me and watch over me during this journey I'm making, if he provides me with food to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ and if I return safely to my father's family, then the LORD will be my God. ²² This stone that I have set up as a marker will be God's house, and I will give to you a tenth of all that you give me."



“What is remarkable about Jacob’s dream is that he sees God not, as one would expect, at the top of the stairway but at the bottom” (Richard Bauckham, *Who Is God?*, pg. 8).

The Importance of the Divine Presence:

1. God’s presence is connected with God’s covenantal promises
2. The revelation of the divine presence is transformational
3. God dwelling with humanity is at the center of God’s mission.

John 1:51 (CSB)

“Then he said, “Truly I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

Jesus himself is the overlap of heaven and earth, the place of sacred space, and God with us.

Matthew 1:23

Jesus is “Immanuel, God with us.”

“See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel”

Matthew 28:20

Jesus closes with “behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

“teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember,^[a] I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Genesis 28:14

Your offspring will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out toward the west, the east, the north, and the south. All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

Matthew 28:19-20

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
God’s presence is the means of God’s mission.

Romans 8:8-11

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. ¹⁰ Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit^[a] gives life^[b] because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who

raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through¹⁴ his Spirit who lives in you. We become like Jesus by being with Jesus.

How to Abide

1. Identify a time and place.
2. Posture one's self with silence & solitude.
3. Hear from God.
4. Respond with prayer.
5. Re-enter the world.