Reading Moses…Finding Jesus… Torah Portion 7 - Meeting 11/16/26

Luke 24:27 "Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."

Luke 24:44-45 Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." [45] Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."

John 5:46-47 If you really believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me. [47] But since you don't believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"

Website for teachings and handouts: www.followhimwithus.com/rmfj

Today - Portion 7 – Vayetze "And he wnet out" Genesis 28:10 – 32:2



Genesis 28:13-15 – NLT - At the top of the stairway stood the Lord, and he said, "I am the Lord, the God of your grandfather Abraham, and the God of your father, Isaac. The ground you are lying on belongs to you. I am giving it to you and your descendants. [14] Your descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth! They will spread out in all directions—to the west and the east, to the north and the south. And all the families of the earth will be blessed through you and your descendants. [15] What's more, I am with you,

and I will protect you wherever you go. One day I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything I have promised you."

Genesis 29:17 - "There was no sparkle in Leah's eyes, but Rachel had a beautiful figure and a lovely face."

Idiom that means Leah was _____.

Genesis 29:21-23 - Finally, the time came for him to marry her. "I have fulfilled my agreement," Jacob said to Laban. "Now give me my wife so I can sleep with her." 22 So Laban invited everyone in the neighborhood and prepared a wedding feast. 23 But that night, when it was dark, Laban took Leah to Jacob, and he slept with her.

Genesis 29:25 - 25 But when Jacob woke up in the morning—it was Leah! "What have you done to me?" Jacob raged at Laban. "I worked seven years for Rachel! Why have you tricked me?"

12 sons of Jacob - Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin

- **Leah – Judah – Jesus**
- **Rachel – Joseph**

The possession of the "household" idols was linked to inheritance rights. When Rachel took the household idols, she was asserting her claim to Laban's estate. Laban was trying to get that back. (Idols were like a Deed…a key to the lockbox). Also, the idols showed Laban's political power.

Genesis 28:11 - Idiom… "At sundown he arrived at a good place to set up camp and stopped there for the night. Jacob found a stone to rest his head against and lay down to sleep." (NLT)

Genesis 28:11 – (CJB) - He came to a certain place and stayed the night there, because the sun had set.

"sun had set" = an idiom that means this was an important place…God had set up this place….God had made Jacob's steps line up with exactly where Jacob was supposed to be at the exact right time.

Where did the "sun set"?? The Temple Mount!

What all happened here? Temple Mount; place where God made Adam and Eve; entrance to the Garden of Eden; place where Abraham took Isaac for sacrifice…Mount Moriah; the place where Jesus dies on the cross; now, Bethel (Beit-El [house of God]) – The place that connects Earth and Heaven!

The dream….
Genesis 28:12 – (NLT) "As he slept, he dreamed of a stairway that reached from the earth up to heaven. And he saw the angels of God going up and down the stairway."
Genesis 28:12 – (CJB) "He dreamt that there before him was a ladder resting on the ground with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of *Adonai* were going up and down on it."

Sullam – Ladder
Hu – "it" or "him" – Some religious leaders believed the "it" was the ladder; some believed it was Jacob.

John 1:51 - Then he said, "I tell you the truth, you will all see heaven open and the angels of God going up and down on the Son of Man, the one who is the stairway between heaven and earth."

Jesus tells Nathaniel – The "it" is neither the ladder nor is it Jacob….It's ME! I'm the "Hu"!

Genesis 28:16 - "Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn't even aware of it!" [17] But he was also afraid (yirah - in awe) and said, "What an awesome place this is! It is none other than the house of God, the very gateway to heaven!"

This Place – is the portal from earth to heaven…and Jesus is the pathway between earth and heaven!!! Jerusalem – Bethel – The Temple mount – Mount Moriah!! This is why it's so contested! satan is trying to shut down the access point!

Where did Muhammed claim to ascend to Allah in Islamic belief??? The Temple Mount….

Jesus connects heaven and earth!

Another word for Messiah = Ladder!

For Jacob to achieve what God desired, he had to leave what he's always known. He had to leave what was comfortable. He had to Lech Lecha, like his grand dad.

To grow spiritually, we have to be taken out of our comfort zone….and use what we've learned in church…. Sometimes, God calls us to leave the comfortable norm and takes us into the wilderness to allow us to trust Him more.

Before you ascend, you often have to descend. You may have a bad season (descend) followed by a good season (ascend)….but if God is going to elevate you in spiritual maturity, it takes both the descend and ascend times…the bad seasons and the good seasons!

This process of descent and ascent is known as Shefah…. Shefah means the drawing down of the Glory of God. It's the process of drawing the Glory of God down to Earth.

God draws us, Shefah, to his Glory through Jesus – through obedience to Jesus – through the good and bad times of enduring tough things.

Shefah means a continuous flow of goodness and blessings from God.

Jacob got his true blessing in the hardest of moments…we want all our blessings handed to us in a safe comfortable place…but we learn from Jacob…that when we get caught up in that, we miss the true blessing b/c we fail to be present to receive it….

God was right there…right here…and I never knew it….

Next month, December 14th, we'll cover Vayishlach… "And he sent" in Genesis 32:3 – 36:43

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