

CHRIST

IN THE

OLD TESTAMENT

Passage: Gen 28:10-22, Gen 32

Lesson: A comforting message, and a cryptic match

Gen 28, 32: A comforting message, and a cryptic match

■ Reviewing the thread of Christ in the Old Testament:

Topic	Passage	Lesson
Creation (first appearance)	Gen 1, John 1	It was CHRIST that made and sustains both our world and us
Eden & the promise (covenant)	Gen 3:1-24	A savior was promised who would reverse the curse of our broken covenant = CHRIST
First sacrifices (a type)	Gen 3:21, 4:1-15	Due to our sin, an innocent death is the price for us to be justified before a Holy God = CHRIST
The flood & the ark (a type)	Gen 6-8	There will be only one way to be rescued from our just punishment by a Holy God, and it will come through God's efforts alone = CHRIST
Abrahamic Covenant (covenant)	Gen 12:1-3, Gen 15	The promised savior would come through Abraham, and must be both God and man, and would suffer = CHRIST
Melchizedek (a type)	Gen 14:1-24	We need a perfect, eternal priest as our representative before a Holy God, to cleanse us for fellowship with Him = CHRIST
Appearances to Hagar & Abraham (Christophany)	Gen 16, 18	Christ appears to comfort those in need, and who are discouraged, and reiterate the promise of a savior = CHRIST
Abraham & Isaac (a type)	Gen 22:1-19	God shows that He will keep His promises to Abraham, and that He will provide the necessary sacrifice for our redemption = CHRIST

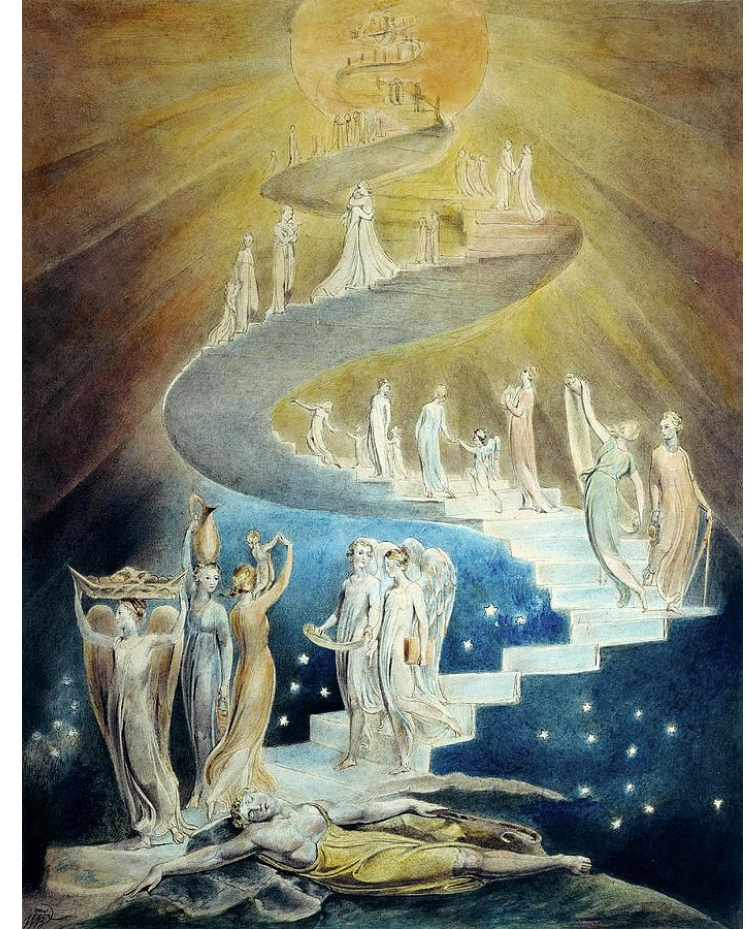
Gen 28, 32: A comforting message, and a cryptic match

- The purpose of studying Christ in the Old Testament:
 - To set our “hearts on fire” in faith and love for Christ
 - To understand how Christ has been at work since creation – not just beginning at the virgin birth
 - To appreciate the many facets of His work, pictured in the Old Testament

Theme: Christ is always present with His people, and working in both the practical matters of our lives as well as the eternal matter of salvation, and wants to encourage us and remind us to depend on Him.

I. A Comforting Message (Gen 28:10-22)

- A. Jacob's desperate flight
- B. Jacob's divine vision (vv. 10-15)
 - 1. The visual components
 - 2. The voice of the Comforter
- C. Jacob's devoted worship (vv. 16-22)



I. A Comforting Message (Gen 28:10-22)

Application: what does this teach us about Christ?

- This is a type, a picture of the **role** of the Savior (John 1:50-51)
 - Jesus says He is the only link between earth and heaven (John 14:6, 10:9)
 - He is the only link because of His unique nature: both divine and human (John 3:13, 1 Tim 2:5)
- Also a picture of the **heart** of the Savior
 - Promises His presence

Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matt 28:20
 - Promises His protection

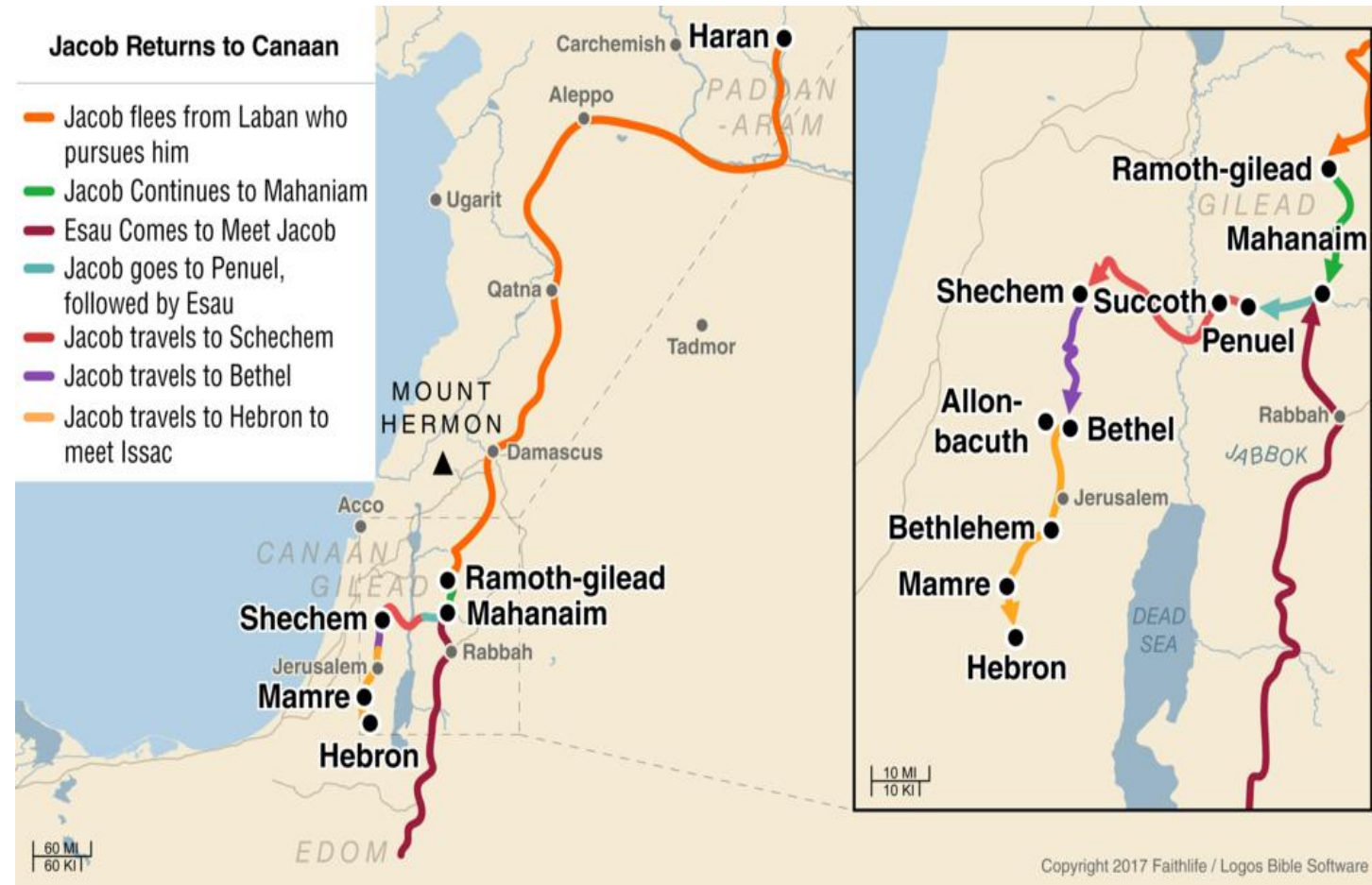
No one will snatch them out of My hand. John 10:27-28
 - Promises to fulfill His word

I will come again and receive you to Myself John 14:3

II. A Cryptic Match (Gen 32)

A. The context for the match (vv. 1-23)

1. Jacob's plan (vv. 1-5)
2. Jacob's panic! (vv. 6-8)
3. Jacob's prayer (vv. 9-12)
4. Jacob's preparation (vv. 13-23)



II. A Cryptic Match (Gen 32)

- A. The context for the match (vv. 1-23)
- B. The contestants in the match
- C. The cause of the match
- D. The conclusion of the match
 - 1. Christ's crippling grace
 - 2. Jacob's humble plea
 - 3. Christ's gentle blessing

II. A Cryptic Match (Gen 32)

Application: what does this teach us about Christ?

- Christ is always near in our times of need – to encourage!
- Christ may allow – or initiate – difficult things in our lives, to strengthen our faith

My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness. 2 Cor 12:9

- Are we “weeping and seeking His favor”? Or half-heartedly asking for blessing as we press forward with our own plans?
- Christ is aware of the practical needs in our life