

Stair Case

The Way of Truth to Life

April 5, 2026



He is risen! He is risen indeed! Therefore: **We will rise! We will rise indeed!** And:

[Those] raised from the dead ... are like *angels* and cannot *die*. – Luke 20:35-36 NCV



We've been *talking* about *Joseph* and his *dreams*. But his *dad*, *Jacob* is a *heavy-hitter dreamer!* Back when he was a *bachelor* in *Beersheba*, he *fled* from his *twin* after *duping* their *dad* into *giving* him his *brother's blessing*.



Jacob *left* *Beersheba* and ... *stopped* for the *night* ... [and] taking one of the *stones* there, he put it *under* his *head* and *lay down* to *sleep*. He had a *dream* in which he saw a *stairway* *resting on* the *earth*, with its top *reaching* to *heaven*, and the *angels* of *God* were *ascending* and *descending* on it. There *above* it stood the *Lord*, and He said: [among many promises (edited for time)] ... "All peoples on *earth* will be *blessed through you* and your *offspring*. I am *with you*" ... [And] When Jacob *awoke* ... he thought, "Surely the *Lord is in this place* ... [This is] the *house of God*; [and] this [*head-stone*] is the *gate of heaven*." ... [So] Jacob took the [*head*] *stone* ... set it *up as a pillar* and poured *oil* on top of it. [And] He *called* that place *Beth-El* [*House of God*] – Genesis 28:10-19 NIV



The *reason* *Jacob's dream* is *perfect* for *Easter*, is that **it depicts the distance and disconnect we can sense from sin, between God's holiness and our lowliness.** And it *paints* a *prophetic picture* of our *heavenly Father* and **the infinite gap that's filled and fulfilled with Christ's resurrection.**

[And later on] *God* said to *Jacob*, "Go up to *Beth-El* ... and *build an altar* there to *God, who appeared to you*" ... and [he did, and] he *called* the place *El Beth-El*, [*God of the house of God*] because it was *there* that *God revealed* himself to *him* ... [and the story is then retold, revealing that] *God* said to [*Jacob*], "I am *God Almighty*" [and, promise-promise-promise, and] ... *Then God went up* from him *at the place* where He had *talked with him*. [Which means, He came down to him to speak to him! So] *Jacob set up* a [*head*] *stone pillar* at the *place* where *God* had *talked* with him ... [called] *Beth-El*. – Genesis 35:1-15 NIV

[Now] The *Lord* [later] [led] [*Moses* and the *family-tribes* of *Jacob* a.k.a. *Israel*, to their *Promised Homeland*] ... in a *pillar* of *cloud* ... [and] a *pillar* of *fire* – Exodus 13:21 NKJ

And [He's also referred to as] the *Angel* [lit. *Messenger*] of *God* ... [when the *Pillar*] went *behind* them [to protect and guard them from their enemies] – Exodus 14:19 NKJ

And later still, *Isaiah prophecies* to the *family-tribes* of *Jacob* a.k.a. *Israel* that *one day*:



Your *Light* will *break forth* ... and your *healing* ... [and] then *your righteousness* will go *before you*, [and *Paul* says that *Christ Jesus* has become *our righteousness* (1 Cor 1:30)] and *the glory of the Lord* will be *your rear guard*. – Isaiah 58:8 NIV

And later still, *Paul reveals something incredible, by calling the Pillar of Jacob .a.k.a. Israel ...*

The spiritual Rock that followed them ... the Rock was Christ. – 1 Corinthians 10:4 ESV

a.k.a. the “offspring” of Jacob. The Living “Stone”. (1 Pet 2:4) And the “Head” of the body. (Col 1:18)



I was *flipping through channels* the other *night* and came across *Forrest Gump*; and was *immediately mesmerized*. And I wondered *why* it's so *engaging*. And I *realized* it's because they *connected* all these *classic historical moments* by not only *including Forrest*, but *giving him a strategic role* in *shaping* them. And *likewise* you should *realize* that **the OT becomes incredibly engaging when we're seeking and finding Jesus hiding in the classic stories** – and not only *taking part* in them, but *taking the ultimate strategic role*. Remember when *Jesus* said to the *Pharisees*:

“If you believed *Moses*, you would believe *Me*; for he wrote about Me.” – John 5:46-47 NKJ

For *instance*, *Moses* wrote that the *Lord* had said to him:

“Behold, I send an Angel [lit. Messenger] before you to keep you in the way [And *Jesus* said, “I am the way” (Jn 14:6)] and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.” [And *Jesus* said, “I go to prepare a place for you” (Jn 14:2)] – Exodus 23:20 NKJ

And [the *Lord*] said, [to *Moses*] “My Presence [lit. Face] will go with you, and I will give you rest.” [And *Jesus* said, “Come to Me ... and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28)] – Exodus 33:14 NKJ

And [Moses] said, “Please, show me Your glory.” ... But [the *Lord*] said, “You cannot see My face; [linking His glory to His face] for no man shall see Me, and live.” – Exodus 33:20 NKJ

So the *Lord* spoke to *Moses* face to face, as a Man [a Face Messenger] – Exodus 33:11 NKJ

And we all behold the glory of the Lord with His face unveiled – 2 Corinthians 3:18 NMB

[For] It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, [like the mysterious Messenger of His Face] but the glory of kings is to search out a matter. – Proverbs 25:2 NKJ

[Which is why *King David* writes] The *Lord* is my Light and my Salvation ... [and] my life; ... [And since “no man shall see Me, and live”] When You said, “Seek My face,” my heart said to You, [the Messenger of] “Your face, Lord, I will seek.” [So] Do not hide [the matter of the glory of] Your face from me ... O *God* of my Salvation. – Psalm 27:1-9 NKJ

[*Isaiah* writes] “I hid [the glory of] My face from you for a moment; but with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you,” says the *Lord*, your Redeemer. – Isaiah 54:8 NKJ

“And [*Ezekiel* writes] I will not hide My face from them *anymore*” – Ezekiel 39:29 NKJ

So He became their Savior. [Writes *Isaiah*] In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel [lit. Messenger] of His Presence [lit. Face] saved them – Isaiah 63:8-9 NKJ

And on the *day* of His *resurrection*, two *confused* disciples were *walking to Emmaus*. And:

As they *talked* ... [Jesus] *walked* along with them; but *they were kept from recognizing Him*. ... [And] [He said] “Did *not the Christ* have to *suffer these things* and then *enter His [face-concealed] glory*?” And beginning with *Moses* and *all the Prophets*, He explained to them what was said in *all the Scriptures* concerning *Himself*. – Luke 24:15-27 NIV

[For God] [as *Isaiah said*] made His *Light* shine in *our hearts* to *give us the light* of the [concealed] knowledge of the *glory of God* in the *face of Christ*. – 2 Corinthians 4:6 NIV

O *house of Jacob* ... walk *up* in the *light* of the Lord. [The *El of Beth-El*] – Isaiah 2:5 ESV

And at the *Last Supper*, the *night* before He was *lifted up* on the *cross*, Jesus *revealed*, that:

“In *My [heavenly] Father’s house* [i.e. *Beth-El*] are many rooms ... [And] I am *going* there to *prepare a place* for you ... that you also may be where I am. [And] *You know the way to the place* where I am *going*.” [Thomas said] “*Lord, we don’t know where* You are *going, so how can we know the way*?” Jesus answered, [Come on, *think-think-think: I’m going to the house of God, and*] “*I am the way* and the *truth* and the *life*. [And] *No one comes to the Father* except *through Me*. [Cuz *I’m the Gate* (Jn 10:9)] ... *Philip* said, “*Lord, show us the Father*” ... [and] Jesus answered: “*Don’t you know Me, Philip*, even after I have been among you such a *long time*?” [Come on, *Philip – think!*] – John 14:2-9 NIV



Before He even *called* His *disciples*, He *flipped the Script-ure* on its *head-stone*.

Philip found *Nathanael* and told him, “We have found *the One* *Moses* wrote about ... about whom *the prophets* also *wrote*” ... [Long story short] *Nathanael* declared, “*Rabbi, You are the Son of God; [so there’s the Father; and] You are the King of [Jacob a.k.a.] Israel*.” ... [And] [Jesus said] “*I tell you [two] the truth, [like Jacob] you shall see heaven open, [revealed] and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man*.” – John 1:45-51 NIV

Cuz in *Jacob’s dream*, **the stairway isn’t a structure, it’s a Savior!** And Jesus *revealed* to *Philip* and *Nathanael* that **He’d revealed Himself to Jacob in that OT classic: Stairway to Heaven!** So *Philip* should’ve heard: “*I am the [stair] way* and the [revealed] *truth* and the *life [to come]*.” And if we *weave* Jesus’ *revealed glory* with the *accounts* we’ve already read, we get the *full reveal*:

[Jacob] put [a *stone*] under his *head* and ... saw [the *Son of Man* as] a *stairway* resting on the *earth*, with its top *reaching to heaven*, and the *angels* of God were *ascending and descending* on [the *Son of Man*]. There *above* it *stood* the *Lord*, and *He* [the *Messenger of His face, came down and*] *said*: “*I am the Lord* [God Almighty (35:11)] ... [and, promise-promise-promise, and] All peoples on earth will be blessed *through you* and your *offspring*.” ... [Then *God* went up from him at the *place* where He had *talked* with him (35:13)] [And] When *Jacob* awoke ... he thought, “*Surely the Lord* [of *heaven and earth* (Acts 17:24)] *is in this place* ... [This is] the *house of God*; [in *heaven, and*] *this is the gate of heaven*.” [On earth. And Jesus said, “*Whoever enters through Me* will be *saved*” (Jn 10:9)] ... [So] *Jacob* took *the stone* [Cuz we *come to Christ* as to a *Living Stone* (1 Pet 2:4)] ... and set it up as a *pillar* [at the *place* where God had *talked* with him (35:14)] [Cuz the *Lord* *blazed the trail and led them in a pillar* (Ex 13:21)] ... [and] He called that *place* [where God had *talked* with him (35:15)] *Beth-El* [*House of God, and*] [There he [later] *built an altar, [to the Stairway of Man]* and he called the *place El Beth-El, [God of the House of God]* because it was *there* that *God* [the *Son*] *revealed Himself to him* (35:7)] – Genesis 28:11-19 NIV

Did you know that OT sacrificial altars were forbidden to have a stairway?

“You shall *not go up by steps* to My altar” – Exodus 20:26 NAS

[Because] [Yahweh is] the *One who builds Stairs up to heaven and sets their Foundation on the earth* – Amos 9:6 NOG

[And] *No one can lay any foundation other than ... Jesus Christ.* – 1 Corinthians 3:11 NIV



And that's because *religious rules and rituals and self-righteousness simply can't bridge the gap.* Only the *righteousness of Christ, as faithful High Priest and perfect sacrifice, not only makes the way but, becomes the way to our Father in heaven.* But, remember when Nicodemus came to Jesus? Jesus said:



“*No one has [yet] ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. [In that OT classic: Stairway to Heaven] And as Moses lifted up the serpent [on a cross-beam or banner-pole] ... so must the Son of Man be lifted up, [to bridge the gap] that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have [a gateway to a straight and narrow stairway to] eternal life.* – John 3:12-15 NKJ



By a *new and living way [through the narrow Gate that leads to life (Mt 7:13-14)] opened for us through [His body] ... over [Beth-El] the house of God* – Hebrews 10:19-22 NIV

[Because] The way of *life winds upward ... from hell below.* – Proverbs 15:24 NKJ

[Cuz] “[Those] *raised from the dead ... are like angels*” [in that OT classic] – Luke 20:35-36 NCV

[And] “On this *Rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail*” [Because our *Gateway, by a new and living way, is a Stairway to Yhwh!*] – Matthew 16:18 ESV

[So] *Go through the Gates! Prepare the way ... Build up the highway! ... Lift up a Banner for the peoples! Indeed the Lord has proclaimed ... “Salvation is coming”* – Isaiah 62:10-11 NKJ

The *Mighty One of Jacob ... the Rock of Israel ... of the heavens above* – Genesis 49:24-25 NIV

[God] made *all of this plain to us by ... Jesus, our Savior, who broke the power of death [bridged the gap] and showed us the [stair] way to everlasting life* – 2 Timothy 1:10 NLT

For thus says the *One who is high and lifted up ... “[I dwell] with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit ... I hid My face ... but I will heal him ... [and] lead him* – Isaiah 57:15-18 ESV

“See, I am setting before you the *way of life* and the *way of death.*” – Jeremiah 21:8 NIV

[For] the *teaching is light; and reproofs for discipline are the way of life* – Proverbs 6:23 NAS

[Jesus] said, “It is *finished!*” And He *bowed His head and gave up His Spirit.* – John 19:30 NAS

[And] When the Lord Jesus had *finished ... He was taken up into heaven* – Mark 16:19 NLT

[And] God will redeem *my life from the grave ... [and] take me to Himself.* – Psalm 49:15 NIV