

Genesis 35

King James Version (KJV)

35 And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother. (Go back where you found that stone <the Stone of Scone> and live there and call that place Bethel <the house of God>)

NOTE: (As Christians, our ladder to heaven is not a stone, but Jesus Christ, himself)

²Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments: (Get rid of the idols from among you – the captives that they took from the Hivite tribe must have still had their idols with them)

³And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.

⁴And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem. (A lot of this stuff was booty from the houses of Hamor and Shechem – gold and silver idols)

⁵And they journeyed: and the terror of God was upon the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob. (They saw what 2 men had done to one city, with the help of God. They feared God; and rightfully so)

⁶So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan, that is, Bethel, he and all the people that were with him. (Luz = almond tree; Bethel = house of God; Jacob re-named Luz to Bethel)

⁷And he built there an altar, and called the place Elbethel: because there God appeared unto him, when he fled from the face of his brother. (Elbethel = the God <El> of God's house <Bethel> - God is in His house)

⁸But Deborah, Rebekah's nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allonbachuth. (Allonbachuth = the oak of weeping)

⁹ And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. (God stayed with Jacob; because he remained faithful to God and obeyed His Word. HE does the same for us if we remain faithful to Him)

¹⁰ And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.

¹¹ And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; (God Almighty = El Shaddah <in the Hebrew>; Shaddah – the womb and the breast – the symbol of protection and nourishment of a baby, who could not survive without it)

¹² And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. (This will later become known as the Promised Land)

¹³ And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him.

¹⁴ And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon. (Thanking God for His blessings)

¹⁵ And Jacob called the name of the place where God spake with him, Bethel. (Bethel = the house of God)

¹⁶ And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

¹⁷ And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also.

¹⁸ And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin. (Benoni = son of my sorrow; Benjamin = son of my right hand)

¹⁹ And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. (Bethlehem is where Jesus would be born much later)

²⁰ And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day. (This word grave, in the Hebrew is Kevir - a sepulcher. This is not a grave in the ground; probably a cave)

²¹ And Israel journeyed, and spread his tent beyond the tower of Edar.

²² And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve: (This is incest. Reuben will lose his rights as first born because he did this)

(Instead, Joseph will receive the blessing of the first born. He will become two tribes – Ephraim and Manasseh – the double portion of the first born)

²³ The sons of Leah; Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun:

²⁴ The sons of Rachel; Joseph, and Benjamin:

²⁵ And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid; Dan, and Naphtali:

²⁶ And the sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid: Gad, and Asher: these are the sons of Jacob, which were born to him in Padanaram.

²⁷ And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.

²⁸ And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.

²⁹ And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him. (Esau – Jacob; Later, Edom – Israel)

(Much later, Esau progeny would become the Slavic countries <Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia>. Jacob's progeny would become the Christian countries of Western Europe; and also Canada and the US)