

The Place of Revival

Bethel was a place to...

III: _____ to God's Mercy: v14-15

Just as it was merciful of God to protect and provide for Jacob and to remove Him from the danger that his brother posed to him at the time ... it was merciful of God to put a terror on *the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob...* after what had happened with Shechem and his family.

And after God had met with Jacob again, Jacob reacts to God's mercy in three ways...

A. by _____: v7

The altar was the place to make a blood sacrifice unto the Lord. This was picture of the sacrifice that Jesus Christ would make as the *Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world.*

B. by _____: v14

The first time God appeared to Jacob at Bethel, God gave and kept His promises. The second time, God gives them again. In setting up a pillar of stone Jacob was building a monument that He could always return to indicating that God is trustworthy.

C. by _____: v14

The picture of the drink offering and oil is both, Jacob pouring out himself to God, and Christ pouring out Himself for us.

Revival always begins with Christ pouring out Himself for us. It then comes to fruition when we respond by pouring out ourselves to Jesus.

God met with Jacob at Bethel to rekindle His presence, and reengage His promises. Jacob responded with sacrifice, trust, and worship.



August 29, 2021

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Gen. 35:1-15

In Genesis 35, God called Jacob back to a place called Bethel. It was as much a time as it was a physical place and it was originally where God met with Jacob as he fled his brother Esau. But now it was where God would meet with Jacob again as he was fled the nations of Canaan.

Every Believer has a Bethel. Every Believer has a special place and time where they remember God's wonderful presence, and power, and purpose in their life. And revival, in part, is the seeking of and returning to that place and experience.

This morning, as we look at Jacob's Bethel, we will discover 2 things that God did for Jacob at his place of revival and one thing that Jacob did for God.

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I: _____ God's Presence: v1-5

Jacobs family was at a place where they were not close to God. They had drifted away from God—but God, in His love, didn't abandon Jacob and his family but rather He calls Jacob to pack up and return to Bethel.

God's presence was rekindled by ...

A. Jacob's _____: v1

- *arise* = get up / don't rest ... but arise
- *go* = ascend up ...
- *dwelt* = to remain / to settle
- *make an altar* = altar comes from the root word *zaw-bakh* = to make a sacrifice / to slay an animal

B. Jacob's _____ of God's holiness: v2
Upon hearing God's command to go back to Bethel, Jacob understood and recalled God's holiness.

C. Jacob's _____ of sin: v4
The family's idols, as well as all of things that were connected to idol worship were collected. Jacob then took and put them away in a place that they would not return to.

While the Holy Spirit of God indwells every Believer we should continually seek to rekindle the effectiveness of His presence in our lives daily by way of obedience, awareness of God's holiness, and abandonment of sin.

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II: _____ God's Promises: v9-13

When God brought Jacob back to Bethel, He reengages Jacob towards three promises.

A. the promise of _____ 35:7 / 27:41

B. the promise of _____ and _____
35:9 / 27:3-4

God then added ...

C. the promise of _____: 35:11-12

At Jacob's return to Bethel, God appeared again to Jacob and repeated His promises to him. At Bethel, Jacob was reminded of how God had promised to protect him from his brother Esau, and now, so many years later he could look back and reflect and see how God kept that promise. At Bethel, Jacob remembered how God had provided for him during his difficult time and blessed him beyond measure. And even though Jacob would not live to see the complete fulfillment of some of the third promise, that didn't make God's promises any less trustworthy.

Even though we live our life day by day, we still have God's promises. His promise of salvation; His promise to return for His church; His promise of eternal life; the promise of His power and His presence as we live through this life that He has given us to live.

When we remember and remind ourselves of God's promises to us that is when our heart is primed and ready for revival.