

The Dream

Genesis 28:10–29:1

The Lord knew the evil influences that would surround Jacob, and the perils to which he would be exposed. In mercy He opened up the future before the repentant fugitive, **that he might understand** the divine purpose with reference to himself, **and be prepared** to resist the temptations that would surely come to him when alone amid idolaters and scheming men. There would be ever before him the high standard at which he must aim; and the knowledge that through him the purpose of God was reaching its accomplishment, would constantly prompt him to faithfulness. (*PP* 184.1)

In the vision the plan of redemption was presented to Jacob, not fully, but in such parts as were essential to him at that time. . . . Up to the time of man's rebellion against the government of God, there had been free communion between God and man. But the sin of Adam and Eve separated earth from heaven, so that man could not have communion with his Maker. Yet the world was not left in solitary hopelessness. **The ladder represents Jesus**, the appointed medium of communication. Had He not with His own merits bridged the gulf that sin had made, the ministering angels could have held no communion with fallen man. **Christ connects man in his weakness and helplessness with the source of infinite power.** (*PP* 184.2)

All this was revealed to Jacob in his dream. Although his mind at once grasped a part of the revelation, its great and mysterious truths were **the study of his lifetime**, and unfolded to his understanding more and more. (*PP* 184.3)

Jeremiah 15:19–21
Jeremiah 16:10–13

Naturally of a timid and shrinking disposition, Jeremiah longed for the peace and quiet of a life of retirement, where he need not witness the continued impenitence of his beloved nation. His heart was wrung with anguish over the ruin wrought by sin. (*PK 491.2*)

Cruel were the **mockings** he was called upon to endure. His sensitive soul was pierced through and through by the arrows of **derision** hurled at him by those who despised his messages and made light of his burden for their conversion.

(PK 420.1)

And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the
wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand
of the terrible. (v. 21)

Jeremiah 36:29, 31
Jeremiah 37:6–9

- Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that *was* in the court of the prison: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon *there was* no water, but mire: so Jeremiah sunk in the mire. (Jeremiah 38:6)



St-Takla.c



And now, behold, I loose thee this day from the chains which *were* upon thine hand. If it seem good unto thee to come with me into Babylon, come; and I will look well unto thee: but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear: behold, all the land *is* before thee: whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go. (Jeremiah 40:4)

These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be
offended. (John 16:1)

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might
have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of
good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

I pray for them (John 17:9)

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world,
but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. (v. 15)

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall
believe on me through their word (v. 20)

Jesus

- ❑ Did not for a single moment doubt, integrity did not move, confidence in his Father was not shaken
- ❑ Steadfast in his purpose to carry out the plan of redemption in every particular
- ❑ Did not condescend to explain to Satan how he was the Son of God
- ❑ Was not provoked by the taunts of Satan and meekly bore the insults without retaliation

- ❑ Did not exercise his divine power in his own behalf to relieve his own suffering
- ❑ Depended completely on God to care for him and had perfect faith in God's promised care
- ❑ Treasured as precious evidence that his Father approved of him the words spoken from heaven at his baptism
- ❑ He turned away and refused to look at the entrancing spectacle of the kingdoms of the world that Satan presented to him.

This last temptation was the most alluring of the three. . . . Satan brought all his strength to bear upon this last temptation; for this last effort was to decide his destiny as to who should be victor. He claimed the world as his dominion, and that he was the prince of the power of the air. (*Con 52.2*)

Of the bitterness that falls to the lot of humanity, there was no part which Christ did not taste. There were those who tried to cast contempt upon Him because of His birth, and even in His childhood He had to meet their scornful looks and evil whisperings. If He had responded by an impatient word or look, if He had conceded to His brothers by even one wrong act, He would have failed of being a perfect example. (*DA* 88.2)

Thus He would have failed of carrying out the plan for our redemption. Had He even admitted that there could be an excuse for sin, Satan would have triumphed, and the world would have been lost. This is why the tempter worked to make His life as trying as possible, that He might be led to sin. (*DA 88.2*)

Often He was asked, Why are you bent on being so singular, so different from us all? It is written,
He said . . .

When questioned why He did not join in the frolics of the youth of Nazareth, He said, It is written . . . (*DA* 89)

Again and again He was asked, Why do You submit to such despiteful usage, even from Your brothers?

It is written . . .

From the time when the parents of Jesus found Him in the temple, His course of action was a mystery to them. He would not enter into controversy, yet His example was a constant lesson. He seemed as one who was set apart. (*DA* 89)

Satan was defeated.

Jacob's Dream



And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.
(Genesis 28:12)

Jacob in the night vision saw earth connected with heaven by a ladder reaching to the throne of God. He saw the angels of God, clothed with garments of heavenly brightness, passing down from heaven and up to heaven upon this shining ladder. The bottom of this ladder rested upon the earth, while the top of it reached to the highest heavens and rested upon the throne of Jehovah. The brightness from the throne of God beamed down upon this ladder and reflected a light of inexpressible glory upon the earth. **This ladder represented Christ**, who had opened the communication between earth and heaven.

(Con 46.2)

In Christ's humiliation He descended to the very depths of human woe in sympathy and pity for fallen man, which was represented to Jacob by one end of the ladder resting upon the earth, while the top of the ladder, reaching unto heaven, represents the divine power of Christ grasping the Infinite and thus linking earth to heaven and finite man to the infinite God. Through Christ the communication is opened between God and man. Angels may pass to and fro from heaven to earth with messages of love to fallen man, and to minister unto those who shall be heirs of salvation. It is through Christ alone that the heavenly messengers minister to men. (*Con* 46.3)

- ❑ Christ, the greatest teacher the world has ever known
- ❑ Christ, the ladder connecting heaven and earth, teaching us of the kingdom of heaven
- ❑ Christ, the wonderful counsellor, the light of the world, the living water, the wisest of all men
- ❑ Christ, in whom all nations of the earth are blessed
- ❑ Christ, our lovely Saviour and Lord