

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>)

(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)

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>)

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 Jacob remained faithful to God and obeyed His Word. HE does the same for us)

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; 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.

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. (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; 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)

(Joseph will receive the blessing. 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, the Slavic countries <Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia> - Western Europe, Canada and the US)