

“Nudging the Heart, to a New Start”

Arizona Camp Meeting, Camp Yavapines

June 12, 2017 (Pastor Ron du Preez)

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There are “hints” of Jesus in the Old Testament, such as the “us” mentioned in Genesis 1:26 (confirmed in John 1:1-3 & Colossians 1:16), that He is the “active agent” of the creation of this earth.

A. Jacob & Esau were an answer to Isaac’s \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen 25:21). Esau discards birthright; Rebekah & Jacob connive for a blessing.

1) Does God abandon Jacob? He \_\_\_\_\_ him with a dream!

2) Genesis 28:12-15 records a dream of a ladder reaching heaven with angels ascending and descending. According to Jesus (in John 1:51), that ladder represents \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., Himself). Jesus Christ is the connecting link between heaven and earth.

3) Jacob recognized that the \_\_\_\_\_ was there (Genesis 28:16).

[B. June 2016: A Camp Meeting presentation called “Messiah’s Method and Our Message: ‘Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth.’”

“*And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself*” (Lk 24:27).

Interpretation should be Christ-dependent, Chronological, Careful, Corporate, Comprehensive, Canonical, Contextual, Christ-centered.]

C. POLYGAMY? 1) “In the beginning God gave to Adam \_\_\_\_\_ – showing to all who should live upon the earth, his order and \_\_\_\_\_ in that respect” (*Spiritual Gifts* 3:63.1).

2) “Laws” & principles against polygamy are found in the Bible: Genesis 2:21-24; Leviticus 18:18; Deuteronomy 17:17; 1 Cor 7:1-4

3) “Even righteous men fell into the practice, and had a plurality of wives. Yet it was no less \_\_\_\_\_ because they became corrupted, and departed in this thing from God’s order” (*Spirit of Prophecy* 1:93.2). “Polygamy ... was no less a violation of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and was fatal to the sacredness and peace of the family relation.... Abraham ... did not wait for God to fulfill His word in \_\_\_\_\_ own \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_” (*Patriarchs and Prophets* 145.1).

4) “If God had sanctioned polygamy, He would not have thus directed Abraham to send away Hagar and her son. He would teach all a lesson in this” (*Story of Redemption* 80.2). God’s way = best. Good news: God’s grace \_\_\_\_\_ even those polygamists!

D. Consider now some “deeper insights” about what transpired on that night when Jacob wrestled with an assailant, unknown to him: 1) “All that made life dear to him [i.e., Jacob] were at a distance, exposed to danger and death.... With earnest cries and tears he made his prayer before God. Suddenly a strong hand was laid upon him.... The struggle continued until near the break of day, when the stranger placed his finger upon Jacob’s thigh, and he was crippled instantly. The patriarch now discerned the character of his antagonist. He knew that he had been in conflict with a \_\_\_\_\_ messenger, and this was why his almost superhuman effort had not gained the victory. It was \_\_\_\_\_, ‘the Angel of the covenant,’ who had revealed Himself to Jacob.... All penitent and broken, he clung to the Angel; ‘he wept, and made supplication’ (Hosea 12:4), pleading for a \_\_\_\_\_. He must have the assurance that his sin was pardoned.... Jacob ‘had power over the Angel, and prevailed.’ Hosea 12:4. Through humiliation, repentance, and self-surrender, this sinful, erring mortal prevailed with the Majesty of heaven” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 196.3-7.1).

2) “As an evidence that he had been forgiven, his name (Jacob, the ‘deceiver’) was changed from one that was a reminder of his sin, to one that commemorated his victory (Israel, a \_\_\_\_\_ who has [prevailed] with God)” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 197.2).

3) When \_\_\_\_\_ touches the heart, life gets a brand new start.

**Q: Will you let Jesus “touch” your heart this very day?**

**Additional Notes:**