

Jacob's Ladder

Intro:

Rom 1:16-17 - why would anyone be ashamed of the gospel
1 Cor 1:18-19 - because they are ashamed of grace

why?

Problem:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
grace does not look amazing because we don't really think we need it
- Gen 27 (shameful, foolish)
grace does not sound sweet because we don't think we need it
- Jn 3:1-9

Transition:

Genesis 28 reminds us that we do

Main Idea:

that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
was blind but now I see

Implication:

for the believer:
Grace becomes amazing when I see
I was actually a wretch
I was actually lost
I was actually blind

Application:

It was Grace that taught my heart to fear
- Jn 9:35-41 (the problem is not with your eyes its with your heart)
And Grace, my fears relieved
- Jn 12:34-43 (your heart is set on your own glory)
How precious did that grace appear
- Jn 1:9-13 (but grace did appear - He can change your heart)
The hour I first believed
- Jn 1:14 (open your eyes - the Lord is in this place, behold the house of God, behold amazing grace)

Articles for further study:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/total-depravity.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/unconditional-election.html>

<http://www.barabbas.com/messages/lost-and-found/>

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Text

that saved a wretch like me

Gen. 28:1 ¶ Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and directed him, "You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women.

Gen. 28:2 Arise, go to Paddan-aram to the house of Bethuel your mother's father, and take as your wife from there one of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother.

Gen. 28:3 **God Almighty bless you** and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples.

Gen. 28:4 **May he give the blessing of Abraham (objective genitive)** to you and to your offspring with you, that you may take possession of the land of your sojournings that God gave to Abraham!"

Gen. 28:5 Thus Isaac sent Jacob away. And he went to Paddan-aram, to Laban, the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother.

Gen. 28:6 ¶ Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram to take a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he directed him, "You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women,"

Gen. 28:7 and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and gone to Paddan-aram.

Gen. 28:8 So when Esau saw that the Canaanite women did not please Isaac his father,

Gen. 28:9 Esau went to Ishmael and took as his wife, besides the wives he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son, the sister of Nebaioth.

God's plan

- Romans 9:6-24 (do you think grace is amazing?)

- Eph 1:1-14 (is this grace a sweet sound?)

- Eph 2:1-10 (grace becomes amazing when I see I was actually a wretch)

I once was lost, but now I'm found

Gen. 28:10 ¶ Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran.

Gen. 28:11 And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to **sleep**.

Gen. 28:12 And he **dreamed**, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it!

Gen. 28:13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie **I will** give to you and to your offspring.

Gen. 28:14 Your offspring **shall** be like the dust of the earth, and you **shall** spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring **shall** all the families of the earth be blessed.

Gen. 28:15 Behold, **I** am with you and **will** keep you wherever you go, and **will** bring you back to this land. For **I will** not leave you until **I** have done what **I** have promised you."

God's pursuit

- Jn 1:43-51 (Jesus found them - He wasn't the one lost - He is grace personified the only way truth life)

- Luke 15:1-32 (Grace is crazy love - grace becomes amazing when I understand I was actually lost)

was blind, but now I see

Gen. 28:16 Then Jacob **awoke from his sleep** and said, "**Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.**"

Gen. 28:17 And he was afraid and said, "**How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.**"

Gen. 28:18 ¶ So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

Gen. 28:19 He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Gen. 28:20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear,

Gen. 28:21 so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God,

Gen. 28:22 and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you." (**no longer a grasper but a giver**)

God's present

- Acts 9:1-18 (When Paul saw Jesus he also saw he was blind, lost and wretched)

- 1 Tim 1:12-15 (Grace becomes amazing when I see I was actually a wretch, actually lost, actually blind)