

JACOB'S LADDER PART 4

Pastor Jose F. Maldonado

Hillburn Drive Grace Baptist Church

Aug. 22, 2010

Genesis 28:10-22

We return this morning to our study of Jacob's conversion experience here in Genesis 28. We have entitled our message, 'Jacob's Ladder. As we said last week, we want to consider the important application in regards to the gospel. There are 6 things we presented to you:

- I. **Jacob's Deception.**
- II. **Jacob's Departure.**
- III. **Jacob's Dream.**
- IV. **Jacob's Discovery.**
- V. **Jacob's Delight.**
- VI. **Jacob's Dedication.**

We have already seen Jacob's Deception and Jacob's Departure and are currently seeking to conclude our third point Jacob's Dream, we set forth 8 things from this third point:

- III. **Jacob's Dream.**
 1. **The Savior of the Ladder.**
 2. **The Setting Up of the Ladder.**
 3. **The Sacredness of the Ladder.**
 4. **The Singleness of the Ladder.**
 5. **The Seraphim's of the Ladder.**
 6. **The Sovereign of the Ladder.**
 7. **The Seed of the Ladder.**
 8. **The Security of the Ladder.**

We have seen first that Jesus Christ is ladder yea the Savior of the ladder. Secondly we saw that the Setting up of the Ladder is a type or the doctrine of the incarnation of Christ. Thirdly, we saw that the Sacredness of the Ladder represents the doctrine of reconciliation..Fourthly, we said that the Singleness of the Ladder represents the doctrine of the mediator-ship of Christ, 1 Tim.2:5, "*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*" Fifthly, we saw the Seraphim's of the Ladder, that this represented the ministering angels of God. Hebrews 1:14, "*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*" Sixthly, we concluded last week with the Sovereign of the Ladder, that is, in verse 13 of our text, "*And, **behold, the LORD** stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed.*" The top of this needful ladder reached heaven and our third behold tells us that the one who stood above it was Jehovah/Yahweh-Elohim, the LORD God of Abraham and Isaac. God is

confirming, ratifying and renewing the covenant made to his fathers which now He made with Jacob, but we also saw that when God saves a sinner He remembers, enters and renews the everlasting covenant. God covenants with a sinner in the grace of salvation. To every sinner God saves He renews that glorious covenant, the everlasting covenant that is made in the precious blood of Christ. Heb. 13:20 & 21, *“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”* It is the blood of the everlasting covenant that we find our hope and security in Christ, yes, He is that ladder set upon earth, but reaching the glories of heaven and God stands above it to covenant with Jacob. Seventhly we saw the Seed of the Ladder, where we saw that the seed had reference also to our Lord Jesus Christ. God fulfilled His promise in giving Israel the land, but the promise of the seed is also speaking of Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:16, *“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”* Galatians 3:29, *“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

Thus, this brings us to our final point under **The Dream:**

8. The Security of the Ladder.

Quickly and lastly, number 8 and the last behold, the Security of the Ladder. Genesis 28:15, *“And, behold, **I am with thee, and will keep thee** in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for **I will not leave thee**, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.”* The LORD God, Jehovah/Elohim or Yahweh/Elohim, that is, Jehovah/Yahweh is God's name to emphasize His self-existence as the immutable, eternal covenant keeping God and Elohim is God's name to emphasize His creative and sustaining omnipotent power! Notice again the powerful words of verse 13, *“And, behold, the LORD stood above it, **and said, I am the LORD God** of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed.”* The phrase, “...and said...” that is, God spoke to Jacob and blessed him tremendously not only in the voice of Sovereignty but also in the voice of Security, yea in Great Comfort, again, GOD SAID to Jacob, *“And, behold, **I am with thee, and will keep thee...I will not leave thee...**”* What words of blessed assurance, here we a wretched rascal, a deceiver, a supplanter, a liar, a sinner, wow, that sounds like old Joe Maldonado, but God came to Jacob in mighty grace and saved his soul and filled him with glorious promises and with great security. Here we see the glorious doctrine of the Preservation of God, which is the reason we persevere, it is only because: **He is the one that KEEPS US!** We must understand that those whom God saves, HE will keep to the end! Our converts go back to the world, but the converts of God always persevere. I remember years ago, the ones I let to the Lord, by mean's of a sinner's prayer; would go back to the world after a while. I could not understand that, I was very confused until God opened my eyes to His glorious truth. Then I started to see and realized that those who God saved persevere! One of my favorite passages in dealing with preservation is in John 10:27-29, *“My sheep*

hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." Now, the Bible clearly teaches the preservation of God's elect in Christ. In other words those born again by the power of the Holy Spirit will most certainly persevere in faith, because we are preserved in Christ by almighty grace. Notice again the clear words of God to Jacob, Genesis 28:15, And, behold, **I am with thee, and will keep thee** in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for **I will not leave thee**, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of." The promises are quite plain, **I AM** with thee, **I WILL** keep thee and **I WILL** not leave thee! It says in Eccl. 4:12, "...a threefold cord is not quickly broken." God gives Jacob a 3-fold promise cemented in immutable omnipotence, purposed in Sovereign love and ratified in infinite wisdom and sustained by His supreme power! This 3-fold promise is what sustained Jacob the rest of his life. You see if God ever left us to ourselves, we would be lost without hope, but thanks be to God He does not, He keeps His promises. There is not one of God's elect that shall ever perish. (If time Psalm 73:23, not so much that we hold to Him, but that He holds on to us.) God preserves us and we persevere! Perseverance is the end result of preservation, the believer continues in faith. Preservation is God keeping and sustaining His power! Perseverance is the believer being held by the hand of Christ by faith, but preservation is Christ holding the believer by the hand of grace.

According to John 10:27-29, God's sheep hear His voice and follow Him, God knows them and He gives them eternal life to which they shall never perish. What part of eternal life and SHALL NEVER PERISH does a person not understand? Again, it is very clear and plain, shall never perish, Christ adds neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand and no one shall be able to pluck them out of the Father's hand.

This is a DIVINE PROMISE: "I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish." Jesus Christ makes an unconditional promise! In this promise, like the promise of the blessing, like the promise of the covenant, this promise takes into consideration all things, all possibilities, all circumstances and all times. He says, I GIVE unto them eternal life and because of this effectual giving, they shall therefore NEVER PERISH! The same "I" that spoke here in John 10:28, "I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish." is the same "I" that spoke in Genesis 28:15, And, behold, **I am with thee, and will keep thee** in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for **I will not leave thee**, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of." It is the same omnipotent God, the same Savior. The promise is "I" that is "I" ALONE give unto them eternal and they SHALL NEVER PERISH! But what if these sheep fall into sin? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if their faith so weak? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH." What if they remain babes in Christ? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if one day, they are weak or ashamed to witness? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if they deny you? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if they are sorely tempter? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if their hearts get cold? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if they lose their first love? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if their vision for spiritual things gets dim? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if they fall? "THEY

SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What if they sin again? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" But what if they fall seven times? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" What about seventy? "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" You can continue to ask questions, but the answer is always the same: "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" It is very clear and very plain, I give unto them eternal life and "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" Oh, what hope, what mercy, what grace, what forgiveness and what assurance we have in Christ Jesus. Oh dear people if you are outside Christ, don't you want to experience the great forgiveness of sins? Don't you want to have peace with God? Don't you want to hear those glorious words, "THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE SON!" "THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE DAUGHTER!" Don't you want to have your sins forgiven and here those blessed words, I GIVE UNTO THEE ETERNAL LIFE AND YOU SHALL NEVER PERISH! Don't you want to hear those blessed words: YOU SHALL NEVER PERISH! Don't walk out of this auditorium this morning without settling this issue with God, or dear sinner friend, come to Christ even now, come in repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, do it even NOW!

This promise to the sheep of God means that not one, no not one, not even one shall perish. This is for all who come to God, it saving mercy to all who come. In you repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you have a promise, YOU WILL NEVER PERISH! The same "I" of Genesis 28 makes this promise here in John 10. When God saves a sinner, not one sin can ever sin away the grace of God given you in Christ, because where sin abound, grace does much more superabound! Just look to the journals of history of God's people, Noah's fall after the flood did not altar the grace of God. Abrahams lie did not make the grace of God weak. Judah's deception will not get him cast out. Lot's awful fall did not make him less righteous before God. Moses striking the rock twice did take away God's grace. David's adultery didn't cause him to perish. Hezekiah's foolishness did get him throw out. Samson's deception by Delilah will not cost him to perish. Jonah's disobedience did not cause him to be cast out? Peter's denial of Christ did not cause him to lose the grace given to him. Why? Because, "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" Pastor Joe, does that give us a license to sin? I'll put it very simple, anyone who believes that they have a license to sin; has no grace in his soul and is still in awful blindness and darkness! I don't share this so that you can go out and sin, but to encourage you, that even in our short comings, failure, unbelief, temptations and so forth, in all our weaknesses when we stumble and fall: "THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!" This does not make you go out and be sinful, no, or to turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, no, no but it causes you to be more HOLY! Romans 6:1 & 2, *"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"*

God preserves us therefore we persevere!

The decree of God shall never be reversed: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The power of God shall never be overthrown: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The promise of God will always be fulfilled: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The purpose of God will not be frustrated: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The work of Christ on the cross cannot be cancelled or abolished: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The word of God will not be nullified: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The sovereignty of God shall never be thwarted: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The justification of the believer cannot be reversed: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The punishment of Christ upon the cross shall not be in vain: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The justice of God shall remain satisfied: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

King Jesus shall never be dethroned: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

The sheep of God shall never be lost again: THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH!

What about you this morning, do you have this promise: YOU SHALL NEVER PERISH? Do you have this hope: YOU SHALL NEVER PERISH? Do you have this salvation where in: YOU SHALL NEVER PERISH?

We have glorious promises are given to us by God, 2 Peter 1:4 “*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises ...*” Notice these last few verses as we conclude:

- 1 Peter 1:3-5, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, **reserved in heaven for you,** 5 **Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time.”*
- John 6:37-40, “*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath **given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.** 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and **believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**”*
- Jer.32:40, “*And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, **that they shall not depart from me.**”*
- Jude, 24 & 25, “**Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,** 25 *To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.”*

God said to Jacob, “*And, behold, **I am with thee, and will keep thee...**for **I will not leave thee...**” This is exactly what God says to all those whom He saves, **I AM** with thee, **I WILL** keep thee and **I WILL** not leave thee! Oh I plead with those of you this morning outside of Christ, come to Christ; come to that ladder that its top reaches HEAVEN! Come even now in repentance towards God and faith towards Jesus Christ, so that you can hear these words the rest of you life: “...**I AM** with thee, **I WILL** keep thee and **I WILL** not leave thee!” To those who know Christ as their LORD and Savior rejoice in the utmost blessings given to us by GOD! Psalms 68:19, “*Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.*” Let’ sing John 10:27-30 or Jude 24 & 25*