

Sunday School Live Lesson

June 29, 2025

Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar

[From Theophany to Ephiphany]

Genesis 28:10-22

1

Instructor: Ralph Gordon

Sunday School Lesson

Questions for Us Today

June 29, 2025

2

Have you celebrated and/or commemorated a special blessing the Lord has given to you?

If so, how did you do it?

Sunday School Lesson

Objectives

June 29, 2025

3

To understand the experience of Jacob in this Bible passage and how it may apply to our lives.

Sunday School Lesson Segments – 1

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1. Bibliography

2. Points of Information: Jacob

Sunday School Lesson Segments - 2

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3. Lesson Context

4. Lesson Text

5. Remember This

Points of Information – Jacob

Jacob was the second son of Isaac and a grandson of Abraham.

6

As they were coming out of the womb of their mother, Rebekah, Jacob held on to the heel of his [older] twin brother Esau. Genesis 25:26.

Points of Information – Jacob

Jacob was cunning and (at times) deceitful. He tricked his brother Esau out of his birthright.

7

Demanding his blessing, Jacob wrestled with an angel. Genesis 32:24-28.

Points of Information – Jacob

8

God changed Jacob's name to "Israel."
Genesis 32:28.

Points of Information – Jacob

9

Jacob's 12 sons became known as the 12 tribes of Israel / the Children of Israel who “became the foundation of a nation.” [Herbert Lockyer]

Jacob favored his son Joseph. Genesis 37:3.

Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar

Lesson Context

In Chapter 25, we see the birth of twin boys to Isaac's wife Rebekah. First was Esau, second was Jacob.

Jacob came out of his mother's womb grasping the heel of Esau.

Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar

Lesson Context

Also in Chapter 25, we see how the younger brother shrewdly got Esau to give him (Jacob) his birthright – that which duly belonged to the elder brother.

Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar

Lesson Context

In Chapter 27, we see how Jacob – at the urging of his mother – fooled his elderly father into giving him the blessing which should have gone to his elder brother, Esau.

Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar

Lesson Context

Jacob was headed to Harran for two reasons: First, after conspiring with his mother Rebekah to steal Esau's blessing from their elderly father Isaac, Jacob rightfully feared for his life. And secondly, Isaac told him to leave and go find a proper wife.

Genesis 28:10 (NIV)

Jacob left Beersheba for Harran.

Genesis 28:11

When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

Genesis 28:12

He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to Heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Genesis 28:13

There above it stood the LORD, and He said: “I am the LORD, God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.

Genesis 28:14

Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

Genesis 28:15

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

Genesis 28:16

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.”

Genesis 28:17

He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of Heaven.”

Genesis 28:18

Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it.

Genesis 28:19

He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

Genesis 28:20

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear

Genesis 28:21

so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God

Genesis 28:22

and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and all that you give me I will give you a tenth.”

Remember this:

Since the Lord blesses us continuously, let us consider more ways to celebrate, commemorate and inspire and bless others.

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NEXT Sunday School Live Lesson

July 6, 2025

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2:41-52