

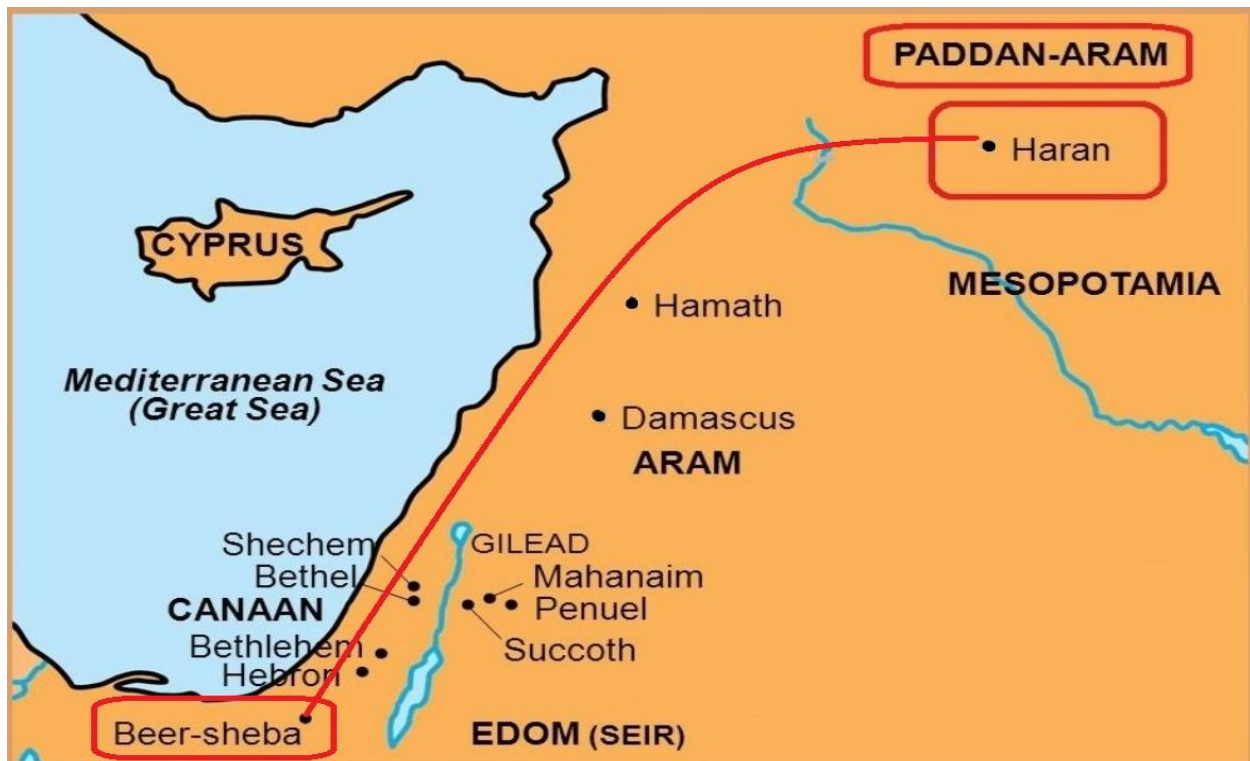
Genesis 28

Verses 1- 5

So Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and commanded him, saying to him, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. ² Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother’s father; and from there take to yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban, your mother’s brother. ³ May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, so that you may become a multitude of peoples. ⁴ May He also give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, so that you may possess the land where you live as a stranger, which God gave to Abraham.” ⁵ Then Isaac sent Jacob away, and he went to Paddan-aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.

² Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother’s father; and from there take to yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban, your mother’s brother.

See map 2805



Abraham sent his servant to Haran to find a wife for his son Isaac and now Isaac was telling his son Jacob to go to the same place to find himself a wife. Isaac did not send a servant to do this job because he knew Jacob needed to leave.

Since Isaac was 60 when Jacob and Esau were born and he is now 137 years old then Jacob has to be 77 years old.

See chart 2810

Ch	Person	Event	Age	Year
21	Abraham	Isaac born	100	1896
22	Abraham	Abraham Tested	120	1876
23	Sarah	Sarah dies	127	1859
24	Isaac	Marries Rebekah	40	1856
25	Isaac	Esau and Jacob born	60	1836
25	Abraham	Abraham dies	175	1821
26	Esau	Marries two Hittites	40	1796
25	Ishmael	Ismael dies	137	1773
27 - 28	Isaac	blessing	137	1759
27 - 28	Jacob	Trip to Haran	77	1759
29	Jacob	7 years for Rachel	77-84	1752
29 - 30	Jacob	7 years and 11 kids	84-91	1752 - 1745
30	Jacob	Joseph born	91	1745

³ May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, so that you may become a multitude of peoples.

This seems to indicate that Isaac knew Jacob would be gone for a long time. Jacob had 11 sons during the time he lived in Haran.

⁴ May He also give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, so that you may possess the land where you live as a stranger, which God gave to Abraham."

This seems to indicate that Isaac knew that Jacob would return to the land of Canaan.

Verses 6 -9

⁶ Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram to take to himself a wife from there, *and that* when he blessed him he commanded him, saying, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan,” ⁷ and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and had gone to Paddan-aram. ⁸ So Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan displeased his father Isaac; ⁹ and Esau went to Ishmael, and married, besides the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth.

⁸ So Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan displeased his father Isaac; ⁹ and Esau went to Ishmael, and married, besides the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth.

Esau married the two Canaanite women (Hittites) when he was 40 and now he is 77 years old. It took many years for him to understand that his Canaanite wives were a disappointment to his parents. Some commentators say that when Esau realized this he married his father's niece as a gesture of reconciliation. However, Esau did not send his Canaanite wives away and his new wife was more Egyptian than she was Jewish.

Verses 10 -17

¹⁰ Then Jacob departed from Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he happened upon a particular place and spent the night there, because the sun had set; and he took one of the stones of the place and made it a support for his head, and lay down in that place. ¹² And he had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ Then behold, the Lord was standing above it and said, “I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your descendants. ¹⁴ Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed. 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.” ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “The Lord is certainly in this place, and I did not know it!” 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!”

¹⁰ Then Jacob departed from Beersheba and went toward Haran.

The trip from Beersheba to Haran is around 450 miles.

See Map 2805 above.

¹² And he had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

God spoke to Jacob thru a dream and in this dream angels were going back and forth between heaven and earth. We can assume they were busy doing service for the heirs of salvation.

See Hebrews 1:14

¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to *provide service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?*

The idea that angels would have to use a ladder between heaven and earth is quaint if not comical to people of our day. But we have the advantage of knowing all of God's revelation from Genesis to Revelation.

¹³ Then behold, the Lord was standing above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your descendants.

God made these promises to Abraham, then to Isaac and now He confirms the same covenant to Jacob.

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."

Jacob was fleeing from his brother and going to a strange land over 450 miles away. He was 77 years old, but any new venture can be fraught with complications and Jacob needed some assurance that this was not a big mistake. So God promised him heavenly protection until he returned home.

Verses 18 - 22

¹⁸ So Jacob got up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had placed as a support for his head, and set it up as a memorial stone, and poured oil on its top. ¹⁹ Then he named that place Bethel; but previously the name of the city had been Luz. ²⁰ Jacob also made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me on this journey that I take, and give me food to eat and garments to wear, ²¹ and I return to my father’s house in safety, then the Lord will be my God. ²² And this stone, which I have set up as a memorial stone, will be God’s house, and of everything that You give me I will assuredly give a tenth to You.”

¹⁸ So Jacob got up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had placed as a support for his head, and set it up as a memorial stone.

The pillar was a marker so he could identify the place later.

¹⁹ Then he named that place Bethel; but previously the name of the city had been Luz.

Bethel means house of God.

See video 2820 8.4 Bethel and the city of bethel

<https://www.levickfamily.com/8.4.html>

²⁰ Jacob also made a vow, saying, “If** God will be with me and will keep me on this journey that I take, and give me food to eat and garments to wear, ²¹ and I return to my father’s house in safety, **then** the Lord will be my God. ²² And this stone, which I have set up as a memorial stone, will be God’s house, and of everything that You give me I will assuredly give a tenth to You.”**

A vow is made between two parties, and in this case it was between God and Jacob. **If** God does this, **then** Jacob will do that. God’s part was the following:

1. Keep Jacob on the journey that he was taking.
2. Give Jacob food to eat and garments to wear.
3. And return to my father’s house in safety.

Jacobs part would be the following:

1. The Lord would be his God.
2. The memorial stone would be God's house.
3. And of everything that God gives him, he will assuredly give a tenth back to God.

This is the second time that tithing has been mentioned in the Book of Genesis. The other being Abraham's tithe to Melchizedek.