

you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. 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 spoken to you.”

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM AND ISAAC  
WAS \_\_\_\_\_ THE GOD OF JACOB.

This is called \_\_\_\_\_ (unmerited favor)

The focus of the dream is not Jacob or the ladder, it's \_\_\_\_\_!



**JOHN 1:51** “And He said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.’ ”



**1 TIMOTHY 2:5-6** “There is one God, and there is one \_\_\_\_\_ between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all.”

Look at the ladder—that’s God at \_\_\_\_\_ ends of it!

The story of Abraham and Isaac is the story of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And it’s found in Genesis.

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GENESIS

### PART 9: “Stairway to Heaven”

Study Guide by Pastor Benjamin Orian | [www.orian.us](http://www.orian.us)

All Bible references, unless otherwise noted, are from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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## STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

Pastor Benjamin Orian

Led Zeppelin has been classified by many as one of the greatest Rock ‘N Roll band of all time, but their song, Stairway to Heaven, has been often categorized as the greatest song of all time. It debuted in 1971, but has proven to be a cross-generational song, remaining a recognizable favorite even to this day.

Look at the first verse of lyrics:

*“There’s a lady who’s sure*

*All that glitters is gold,*

*And she’s buying a stairway to heaven.*

*When she gets there she knows,*

*If the stores are all closed.”*

In short, the song talks about a woman who thinks her happiness can be found in money, and she is convinced that money and possessions are the true path to happiness—that, money is her stairway to heaven.

Far too many are seduced by such a notion. So they try to escape reality and live in a fantasy world. But such happiness can’t be true happiness when it is shallow and the satisfaction fades in time.

 **GENESIS 26:25** “So he built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord and he pitched his tent there; and there Isaac’s servants dug a well.”

This represents a shift in the story. Previously Isaac had built the well first and then settled his family around it. If conflict arose, he moved on. Now the text changes everything. Note the order:

FIRST: He built an \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND: He \_\_\_\_\_

THIRD: He \_\_\_\_\_ his tent

FOURTH: He dug a \_\_\_\_\_

This verse teaches a great lesson in faith—that the \_\_\_\_\_ place for God’s people to be—is in the place of God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

### CONFLICT IN THE STORY

The Bible tells us that Isaac and Rebekah have a set of twins who create a source of stress and conflict for them. The Bible records THREE main stressors in the story:

1. In the \_\_\_\_\_

The text says they “struggled within her” (GENESIS 25:22).

2. Over the \_\_\_\_\_

Jacob traded for the birthright for a bowl stew (GENESIS 25:29-34).

3. Over the \_\_\_\_\_

Jacob tricks Isaac for the Birthright Blessing (GENESIS 27).

 **GENESIS 27:41** “So Esau \_\_\_\_\_ Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him, and Esau said in his heart,

‘The days for mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob.’ “

## CONFLICT

There is always a battle for \_\_\_\_\_  
going on in the Bible.

 **GENESIS 28:11** “So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep.”

 **GENESIS 28:12-13a** “Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ stood above it.”

### LADDERS PEOPLE CLIMB LOOKING FOR SUCCESS OR ACCLAIM:

1. The ladder of \_\_\_\_\_

2. The ladder of \_\_\_\_\_

3. The ladder of \_\_\_\_\_

4. The ladder of \_\_\_\_\_

5. The ladder of \_\_\_\_\_

 **GENESIS 28:13-15** “And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: “I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in