



REFLECTIONS

April 12, 2015

[Jacob] 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. There above it stood the Lord

Genesis 28:12-13

Stairway to Heaven

People watchers can have a field day at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport. Streams of people can be found scurrying about there, most of them in transit to somewhere. At some point, almost all of them will be drawn to a mobilized stairway in the course of reaching their destination. On the stairway people from all walks of life and in almost every emotional state can be found descending to the lower level to catch the subway train to their destination terminal. And on an ascending stairway adjacent to the descending one, similar streams of them anticipate their destinations as they ascend to street level. In the hustle and bustle of going somewhere, the escalator is the link between where they are and where they are trying to go.

The scene is much like the one Jacob dreamed of while sleeping in the desert. That night *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.* (Gen 28:12-13) People were coming and going in the hustle and bustle of going somewhere, and a stairway was their means for getting there.

Jesus painted the scene again while recruiting his disciple Nathaniel. "*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,*" he promised. (John 1:51 NKJV) His picture reveals an open heaven and angels traveling up and down between there and earth. But his picture describes the link for getting there with a little more clarity.

He describes [people] ascending and descending between heaven and earth, only the link between those two places is not just any stairway. The link between heaven and earth is *the Son of Man!*

Jesus is the stairway to heaven, "*... the way, the truth, and the life...*" And "*no one goes to the Father except by [him].*"

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

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