



Christ, the Ladder

TEXT:

Genesis 28:12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

John 14:1 ¶ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

4 ¶ And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

There are many types of ladders and many uses for ladders.

This little lad went dashing into the house and said, 'Mum, I've knocked the ladder down outside.'

His mother said, 'Well, don't bother me, go and tell your dad.'

The lad said, 'He already knows – he's hanging off the roof.'

The most notable and common fact about ladders is that they are used for the purpose of reaching something that separates us from something that is higher than we are.

Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Ro 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

But who can we trust in a world of mess and confusion? What kind of ladder is the right ladder?

Tower of Babel

Gen 11:4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

This world had been building its own towers ever since. Many have tried to construct by their own means a ladder to safety.

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But according to our text there is only one **SAFE LADDER**. ONE WAY UP!

Jesus talks about heaven and all the wonderful things being prepared and Thomas says...

John 10:1 ¶ Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Jesus Christ is the only means of escape from the wrath to come, from the grasp of Satan, from the dominion of sin, and the whirlpool of iniquity.

Not only is Christ a SAFE LADDER but He is also **A STRONG LADDER!**

There are a lot of ladders in our world that may help us along our walk in life but many are weak, worn out, broken down. Tradition works well for some things but tradition breaks down.

- Some folks stand on family who then let them down
- Some folks stand on finances that then run out
- Some folks stand on government but soon find out that too has failed
- Some folks stand on drugs to get them through but find out it is only temporary and unstable
- Some folks stand on their own education or talents but find themselves unsatisfied and burned out

Oh, but there is no fear of Christ giving way beneath a soul that rest and trust in Him.

Isa 26:4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is **everlasting strength**:

Isa 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a **sure foundation**: he that believeth shall not make haste.

De 33:27 The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the **everlasting arms**:

1Co 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that **Rock was Christ**.

Not only is Christ a SAFE LADDER, and a STRONG LADDER, but He is also a SPANSIVE LADDER!

The top of the ladder that Jacob saw in our text reached to heaven. It did not go part way.

The men of Babel built their tower to reach heaven in Gen. 11, but it ended in confusion, as all man's efforts do.

Not so with Christ: He goes all the way, and brings us into communication and connections with God;

2Co 10:13 But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

Children of Israel complained in the wilderness (tired of manna)

Nu 11:23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

I wonder this morning if you are on a ladder of your own making and you are about to fall...