

## **DOUBLE CALLS (2) GEN.46.2. JACOB, JACOB.**

**22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2004.**

**INTRODUCTION.** This was the sixth and final occasion when God appeared to Jacob.

- 1) Gen 28 at Bethel. The promise of the land, and of His Presence with him.
- 2) Gen 31 at Padan-aram. Instructions to return to Canaan, and enlightenment that God was behind his successful breeding programme.
- 3) Gen 32 at Jabbok. God wrestled with him.
- 4) Gen 35 (1) at Shechem. Instructions to go to Bethel, back to his spiritual roots.
- 5) Gen 35 (2) at Bethel. Confirmation of his change of name, and the promise of the land reaffirmed by "God Almighty".
- 6) Gen 46 at Beersheba. Instructions to proceed to Egypt, with the renewed promise of the divine presence.

**BACKGROUND.** Jacob's sons had arrived back from Egypt with Simeon and Benjamin. They also brought provisions, and news that Joseph was still alive (ch.45).

- 1) They obeyed Joseph's instructions at Verse 13.
- 2) At first Jacob refused to believe
- 3) When he saw the wagons, he then believed. Items 2 and 3 point forward to the day when the Jews refused to believe in an exalted glorified Man, but signs encouraged faith in some, e.g. the gift of tongues (Mark 16.20. 1Cor.14.21-22).
- 4) Jacob, without either thanksgiving or prayer, made a spur of the moment decision to go to Egypt (45.28).

### **GOD'S CALL TO HIM IN CH.46.**

- 1) At verse one, Jacob pauses at the southern extremity of the land to reflect. Had he remembered that Abraham's visit to Egypt was disastrous? Had he remembered that God had forbidden his father Isaac to go to Egypt?
- 2) He offers sacrifices; there is now a spirit of gratitude and worship, an appreciation of God's dealings with him in grace.
- 3) God spoke at night: note that most of God's appearances to him were at night.
- 4) To the double call there was the response "Here am I". He was available to listen, cf. Abraham in ch.22. (Apply to our reading of the Scriptures, and our hearing of the ministry of the Word).

- 5) Fear not, one of the many from Gen.15.1 to Rev.2.10.
- 6) His instructions were to go to Egypt. (He wanted to go, he had set out to go: i.e. his own desires coincided with God's will: it must always be so.) It was in order for him to go, whereas for Abraham it was spiritually disastrous, and for Isaac Egypt was out of bounds. The difference was in the fact that Joseph was now "the lord of the land".
- 7) In ch.35.11 God had promised that a nation would spring from him: now He was intimating that that nation would be born in Egypt V3, **there**.
- 8) Again, there was the assurance of the divine presence, so vital in every sphere of Christian experience (Matt.18.20, 28.20. Is.43.1-2).
- 9) The promise to bring him up again was fulfilled in that he was buried in Canaan, but more particularly in the Exodus of his descendants from Egypt.
- 10) He was obedient to God's command V5-7.