

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

From Uncertainty to  
Worship

### Speaker:

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### Date:

May 5, 2024

### Scriptures:

Genesis 28:10-22

**Theme:** When God speaks we turn from uncertainty to worship.

**Introduction:** This life offers us plenty of uncertainty, and when we recognize how little we are able to control in life, we realize that we are we need help. If not, we can be consumed by FUD—fear, uncertainty, and doubt. But we also recognize that help is not found within ourselves. We need to look without, to the good and sovereign God who does exercise control over all things.

We find 3 aspects of dealing with uncertainty in this passage:

### 1. Jacob uncertain (10-11)

Upon leaving his father's home to seek a wife, Jacob finds himself in the middle of nowhere ('a certain place'), with not much happening, and no certain future. He is without resources and it may appear that God's promises of salvation are at jeopardy; but the Lord's sovereign purposes were being accomplished. There is also foreshadowing in the text: he is in 'a certain place,' 'the place,' 'that place.' The land he occupies will become part of God's saving purposes.

### 2. God speaks (12-17)

As Jacob sleeps, he sees a vision: a stairway into heaven, angels ascending and descending, and the Lord himself at the top. Finally, the Lord speaks to him. When he speaks, the Lord cuts through Jacob's uncertainty: he becomes Jacob's God, and Jacob becomes the latest recipient of his covenant promises. The Lord also reveals himself to Jacob. He makes himself known, in a foretaste of the way he makes himself known to us in his Son and in his word.

### 3. Jacob worships (18-22)

After the Lord speaks, Jacob responds with worship. He takes his rock/pillow and erects a pillar of remembrance. He anoints it with oil and marks the place where the Lord met with him. He names it Bethel, 'house of the Lord.' Jacob also swears an oath to the Lord, promising to be faithful to the Lord as the Lord is faithful to him. Jacob also worships with the tithe, giving back to the Lord for his blessing and recognizing that all that he has comes from the Lord.

### Questions:

1. What uncomfortable uncertainties are you currently facing?
2. How is the Lord speaking to you? What does his word say?
3. What does trusting the Lord require of you right now?