

The first lesson is taken from Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba
and went toward Haran.

He came to a certain place
and stayed there for the night,
because the sun had set.

Taking one of the stones of the place,
he put it under his head
and lay down in that place.

And he dreamed
that there was a ladder
set up on the earth,
the top of it – reaching to heaven;
and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

And the LORD stood beside him and said,

"I am the LORD,

the God of Abraham your father
and the God of Isaac;

the land on which you lie – I will give to you

and to your offspring;

and your offspring shall be like... ..the dust of the earth,

and you shall spread abroad

to the west

and to the east

and to the north

and to the south;

and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you

and in your offspring.

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Know that 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 promised you."

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said,
"Surely the LORD is in this place —
and I did not know it!"

And he was afraid, and said,
"How awesome is this place!
This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning,
and he took the stone that he had put under his head
and set it up for a pillar
and poured oil on the top of it.

He called that place Bethel

Here endeth the first lesson.

The 2nd. lesson is taken from the Gospel according to Saint John, chapter 1.

John was standing with two of his disciples,
and, as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed,

"Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

When Jesus turned and saw them following,

He said to them, "What are you looking for?"

They said to him, "Rabbi"
(which translated means Teacher),

"where are you staying?"

He said to them, "Come and see."

They came and saw where He was staying,
and they remained with Him that day.

It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

One of the two, who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew,
Simon Peter's brother.

He first found his brother Simon and said to him,

"We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).

He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said,

"You are Simon son of John.

You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee.

He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Philip found Nathanael and said to him,

"We have found Him about whom Moses – in the law –
and also the prophets wrote,

Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."

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Nathanael said to him,

"Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him,
he said of him,

"Here is, truly, an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"

Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?"

Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree, before Philip called you."

Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God!

You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered,

"Do you believe

because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree?

You will see greater things than these."

And He said to him,

"Very truly, I tell you,

you will see heaven opened

and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Here endeth the second lesson.