Jacob Returns to Bethel
Genesis 35:1-15

Main Point:
Come to God's house knowing that public worship is a great privilege that must be taken seriously.

1. God calls you to come to His house and worship Him.

2. Before you come to God's house, you first need to prepare yourself for worship.

3. When you arrive at God's house, you need to make sure you actually worship.

4. Worshiping God at His house is where you will receive His blessing.

Genesis 28:20-22 20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, 21 "so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God. 22 "And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You." (NKJV)

Psalm 96:8 8 Give to the LORD the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. (NKJV)

Psalm 100:4 4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name. (NKJV)

R.B. Kuiper "When God's people assemble for worship they enter into the places where God dwells. God meets them, and they meet God … Their worship is an intimate transaction between them and their God."

Matthew Henry "These were but ceremonies, signifying the purification and change of the heart."

Exodus 19:10-11 10 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. 11 "And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. (NKJV)

Matthew Henry "Before solemn ordinances, there must be solemn preparation."

Psalm 36:8 8 They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. (NKJV)

Psalm 52:8 8 But I *am* like a green olive tree in the house of God … (NKJV)

Psalm 65:4 4 Blessed *is the man* You choose, And cause to approach *You, That* he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple. (NKJV)

Psalm 84:11 11 For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good *thing* will He withhold From those who walk uprightly. (NKJV)