

TIMES OF CELEBRATION
The Lord Is My Keeper

- I. **A 400-mile journey and he made it back home in peace because God kept him**
- A. On night one, sleeping on the ground with rocks as his pillows God visited Him and promised to be his keeper-Gn28:15-I am with you and will keep you (hedge, watch over, preserve, protect) in all places where you go and will bring you again into this land-**WY**-I shall be thy keeper
- B. He needed provision and protection-Gn28:20-If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go...give me bread to eat...raiment to put on ²¹So that I come again to my father's house in peace (safe, sound, whole, well, prosper); then shall The Lord be my God ²²...give the tenth unto thee
- C. God was with Jacob every step of the way-Gn35:3-God answered me in the day of my distress and was with me in the way I went-Esau-Gn33:11-God hath dealt graciously with me-Laban-Gn31:5-The God of my father hath been with me...⁷your father hath deceived me and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me...⁹God hath taken away the cattle of your father and given them to me...²⁴It is the power of my had to do your hurt: but the God of your father spake unto me-**Gn30:43-AC**-Increased and became exceedingly rich-Hivites-Gn35:5-The terror of God was upon the cities round about them and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob-**Gn32:10**-I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and all the truth, which you have showed unto your servant; For with my staff I passed over this Jordan and no I am become two bands-**MS**-When I left...I only had the clothes on my back, and now look at me-two camps
- D. He acknowledged God kept me-Gn48:15-Fed me all my life long unto this day, angel which redeemed me from all evil-**AM**-Caring for me all my life-**CEB**-Protected me from all harm-**MS**-Delivered me from every evil
- II. **Each year is like Jacob's journey and to make it to the end of the year in peace you need God to be your keeper-Ps121:1**-I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.²My help comes from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.³He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keeps you will not slumber.⁵The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.⁶The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.⁷The Lord shall preserve you from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.⁸The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and even for evermore
- A. God reveals Himself to be a provider and protector-Gn15:1-Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield and exceeding great reward (wages, pay)-**Ps84:11**-God is a sun and a shield-**Jb22:25**-The Almighty shall be your defense and you shall have plenty of silver --- A source unlimited, a shield impentreatable-**Ps37:19, 1Ki17:6, Ex16:4, 17:6, Nm11:21Jb1, Dn3, 6, 1Jn5:18**
- B. God wants to sustain you year after year-Is46:3-Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne by me from the belly, which are carried from the womb: ⁴And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.
- III. **When we enjoy provision, protection, peace another year, we need to acknowledge The One from whom it came-It was God who helped, kept, provided,**

directed, strengthened, delivered-Ps30:1-I will extol (praise) thee, O Lord; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. ²O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. ³O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit; **MSG**-I give you all the credit, God-you got me out of that mess, you didn't let my foes gloat. God, my God, I yelled for help and you put me together. God, you pulled me out of the grave, gave me another chance at life when I was down-and-out

- A. If you got to 2025 in peace God did it-NOT good fortune, luck, hard work-**Ps16:2-ER**-You are my Lord. Every good thing I have comes from you
- B. It's dangerous to forget who butters your bread-Forgetting > Walking after other things > Perishing-**Dt6:10**-When the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land...give you great and goodly cities...¹¹And houses full of all good things...and wells digged...vineyards and olive trees...when thou shalt have eaten and be full;¹²Then beware lest thou forget the Lord...**Dt8:11-TL**-That is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you don't forget the Lord your God and begin to disobey him. ^{KJ14}...your heart be lifted up and you forget the Lord thy God, which brought you forth...from the house of bondage;¹⁵Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, scorpions...drought...no water...brought thee forth water out of the rock...¹⁶Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna...¹⁷And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.¹⁸But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth you power to get wealth...¹⁹And it shall be, if you do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods...I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.²⁰...because ye would not be obedient
- C. Needs to be a reckoning in your heart of why you enjoy what you enjoy-**Dt8:10**-When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless (praise, thank) the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

IV. **3 keys to being kept: 1.Faith 2.Honor 3.Following-Ps91:1**-He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty (**FOLLOWING**).²I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.³Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.⁴He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. ⁵Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;⁶Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. (**FAITH-Pr28:25,29:25**)⁷A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.⁸Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.⁹Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation (**FOLLOWING**); ¹⁰There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. ¹¹For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. ¹²They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. ¹³Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.¹⁴Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. (**HONOR-Mt6:33**) ¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honour him.¹⁶With long life will I satisfy him and shew him my salvation