

***Do you remember
the last dream
you had?***



GENESIS 28

The dream given to Jacob by the Lord to provide him comfort and assurance as he runs away to Harran

START > **(BEERSHEBA)**

< DREAM
(BETHEL)

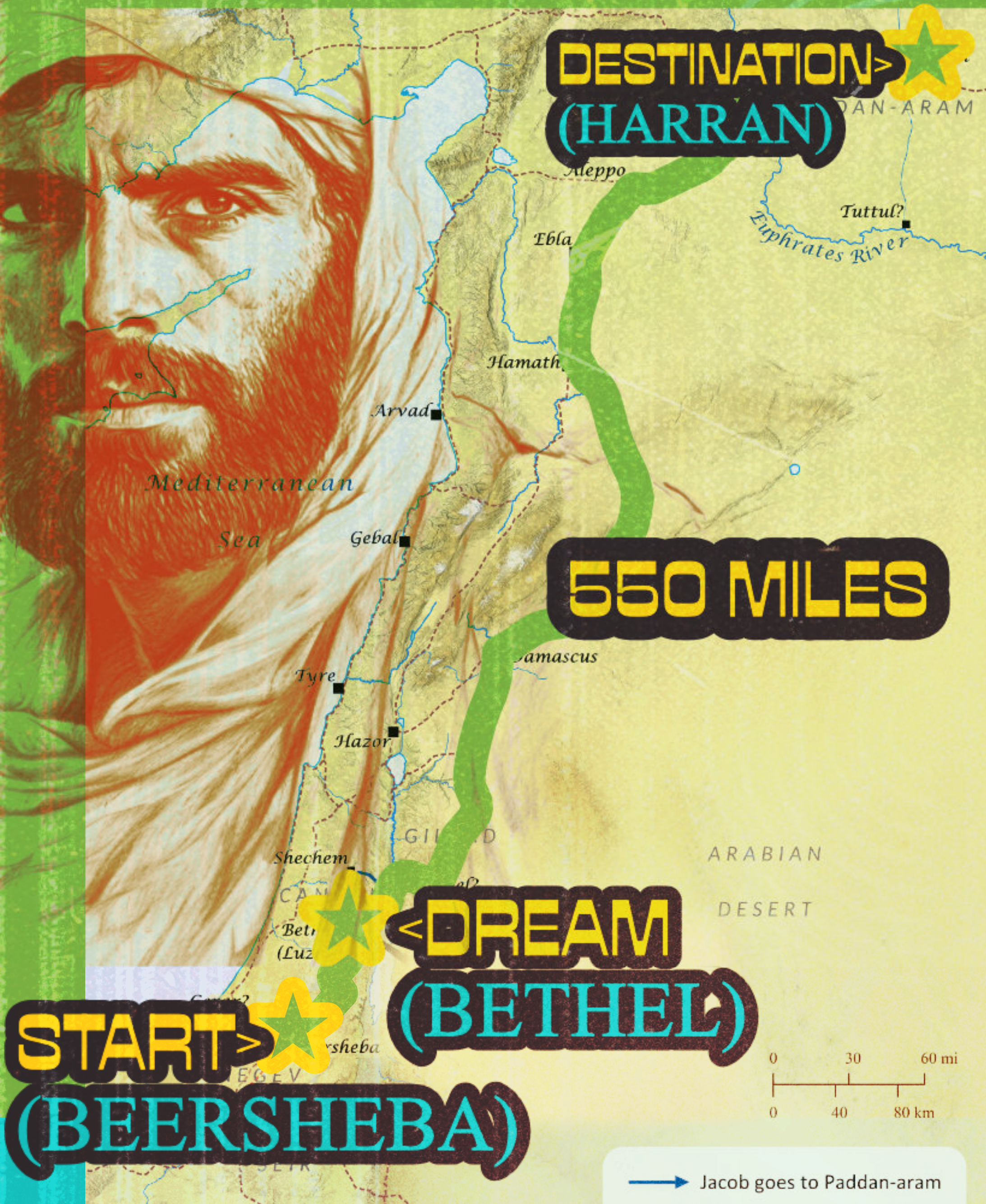
DESTINATION >
(HARRAN)

550 MILES



GENESIS 28:10-11

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.



The statement about the stone pillow is to draw our attention to the plight of Jacob.

**In the midst of stress
& uncertainty,
God graciously visits Jacob**

GENESIS 28:12-15

¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying."



GENESIS 28:12-15

¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”



**dream of a
ladder/stairway/steps
reaching down from
heaven to earth**

**GOD IS ASTONISHINGLY
IDENTIFYING HIMSELF
AND HIS PROMISES
TO JACOB THE DECEIVER**



THOSE IN WHOM GOD HAS PLACED HIS LOVE
he will never leave

*If you find yourself at a low point
or at a crossroad in your faith journey -*
**LET THESE WORDS OF ASSURANCE
PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT.**

I will give you...the new heaven and earth

ISAIAH 65:17

I will be with you...always until the end of the age

MATTHEW 28:20

*If you find yourself at a low point
or at a crossroad in your faith journey -*
**LET THESE WORDS OF ASSURANCE
PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT.**

I will keep you...from stumbling and falling away

JUDE 1:24

**I will bring you back....after you have suffered a
little while in this life, you will be restored,
confirmed, strengthened, and establish you**

1 PETER 5:10

*If you find yourself at a low point
or at a crossroad in your faith journey -*
**LET THESE WORDS OF ASSURANCE
PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT.**

I will not leave you...or forsake you

HEBREWS 13:5

I will do what I promise...he who began a good
work in you will bring it to completion at the day
of Jesus Christ

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

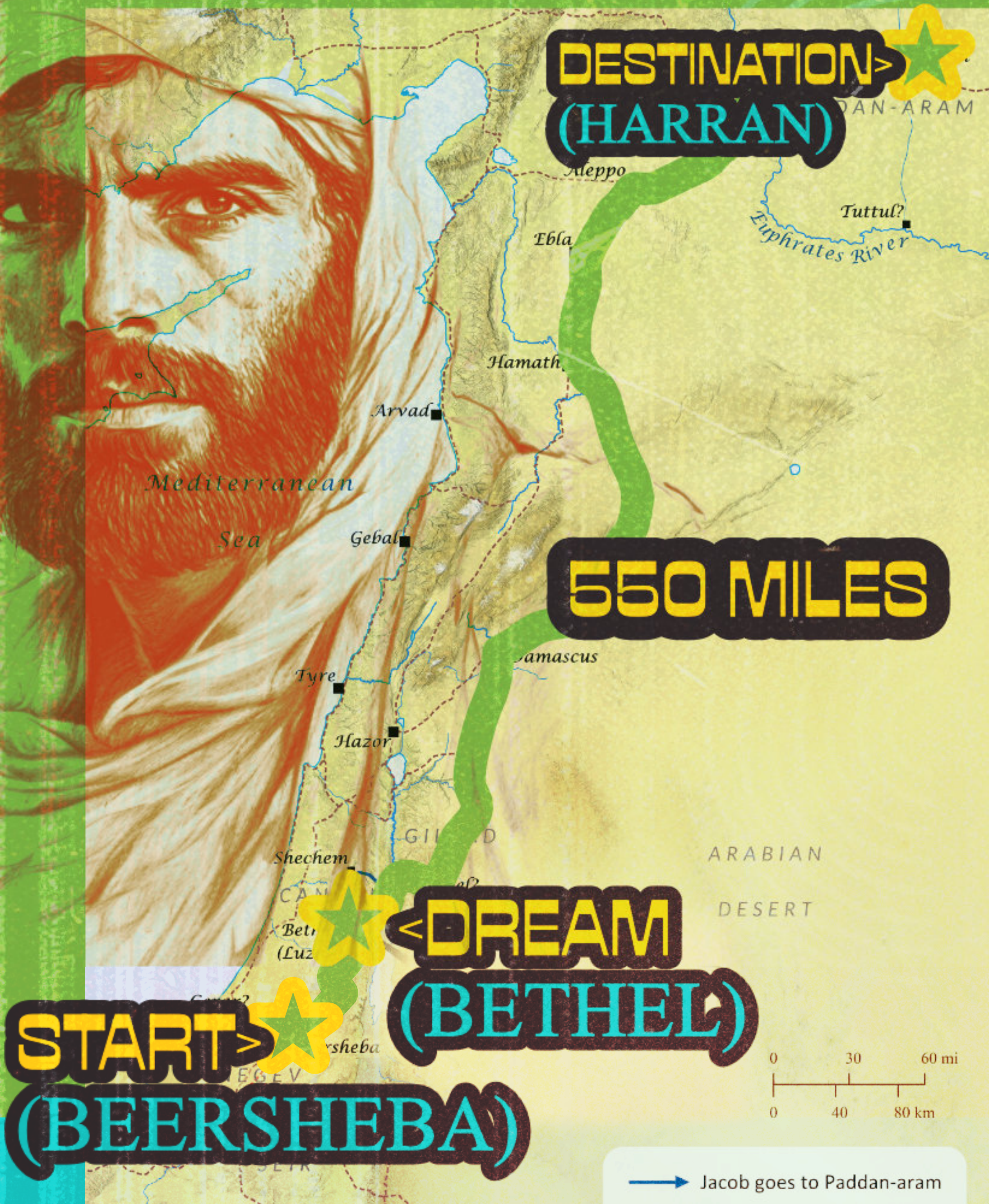
GENESIS 28:16-19

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”




GENESIS 28:16-19

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.



GENESIS 28:20-22



²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “***If*** God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear ²¹ so that I return safely to my father’s household, ***then*** the Lord will be my God ²² and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.”

**Instead of fully trusting-
Jacob put conditions on
God's promises**

IF/THEN

Don't we do the same?



⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”⁴⁸ “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

JOHN 1:47-49

Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

JOHN 1:47-49

⁵⁰ Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” ⁵¹ He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

JOHN 1:50-51

JESUS IS THE STAIRWAY/LADDER

At the cross Jesus made it possible for a connection to be made between humankind and God



**DON'T PUT CONDITIONS ON YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

*given all that he has done
for you in Christ!*