

MEDIATOR OF JACOB'S LADDER

We are currently studying a series of lessons based on the special phrase, **truly truly I say to you**, taken from the Book of John.

The phrase, "**truly, truly** (emphatic particle), **I say** (lego/ p.a.ind.1ps) **to you** (su/ dsm) [advantage]," is used **23 times** by Jesus in **10 of the 21 chapters** of the Book of John (**3:3, 5, 11; 5:19, 24, 25; 6:26, 32, 47, 53; 8:34, 51, 58; 10:1, 7; 12:24; 13:16, 20, 21, 38; 14:12; 16:20; and 21:18**).

This lesson occurred during the calling of the first six disciples of Jesus. After Philip was called to follow Jesus, he went to his friend Nathaniel and took him to talk to Jesus.

There are three conversations that make up our lesson text (Jn.1:43-51).

- (Jn.1:43-46) Philip with Nathaniel Messiah
- (Jn.1:47-49) Jesus with Nathaniel Millennial King
- (Jn.1:49-52) Nathaniel with Jesus Mediator

Today's "Truly, Truly" phrase came in response to Nathaniel's declaration concerning Jesus: "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel." (Jn.1:49)

This lesson will study five aspects of Mediator of Jacob's Ladder.

1. Jesus attached two promises to this messianic declaration of Nathaniel (Jn.1:50-51).

- **1st - Jesus to Nathaniel** - "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, **do you believe? You shall see (horao/ f.m.ind.2ps) greater things than these.**" (Jn.1:50)
- **2nd - Jesus to Disciples** - "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see (horao/ f.a.ind.2pl) the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (Jn.1:51)

2. Jesus gave Nathaniel a great compliment earlier that is important to this Truly, truly phrase. "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit." (Jn.1:47)

In Egypt, Jacob was also called **Israel** (Gen.47:27-31). Jacob also became known **by cunning deceit** (Gen.27:35-36).

Jesus gave Nathaniel this compliment as an Israelite believer (Jn.1:47).

This is important to the Truly, Truly doctrinal teaching of Jesus to Nathaniel and His disciples (Jn.1:50-51)

3. Jesus always sees more in us than we see in ourselves and more than others see.

Jesus saw more than Philip in Nathaniel (Jn.1:45-48).

Jesus always sees mankind in one of two circles (1 Cor.15:22).

Nathaniel began with doubt regarding spiritual identity of Jesus (Jn.1:45-46). “Lord, give me doubt enough to keep me searching and faith enough to recognize the truth when I see it.” (Ren. of NT, pg.342)

- 4. But in his encounter with Jesus, Nathaniel saw the omniscience of God in Jesus because of the statement, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” (Jn.1:48)**

Nathaniel responded, “Rabbi, **You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel.**” (Jn.1:49)

Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? **You will see greater things than these.**” (Jn.1:50)

Jesus told Nathaniel that he would see more divine essence of God in Jesus Christ.

- 5. Then Jesus showed Nathaniel another divine truth of essence of God with Truly, truly I say to you.**

(Jn.1:51) “Truly, truly I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

Jesus brought Nathaniel to God by showing him that Jesus Christ as the Son of Man and Mediator of Jacob’s Ladder (John 14:6). Jacob’s Ladder may have been one of Nathaniel’s favorite Bible stories (Gen.28:10-19).

Jesus gave Nathaniel a new spiritual and doctrinal view of Jacob’s Ladder (Matt.4:11; 26:53; Heb.1:14).

Jesus Christ is and always has been the mediator between God and mankind (1 Cor.8:6; Gal.3:8, 16 -20; Heb.12:24).

(1 Tim.2:5)

“For there is one God; and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”