

pillow, had the nocturnal vision of "Jacob's Ladder." Talmage says of his experience at this place: "The night I slept there the heavens were full of ladders, first a ladder of clouds, then a ladder of stars, and all up and down the heavens were angels of beauty, angels of consolation, angels of God ascending and descending."

The ruins of **SHILOH**, eight miles ahead, are next visited. This place is of great interest, being the centre of Jewish worship in the days of the Judges, and one of the earliest and most sacred of the Hebrew sanctuaries. The Ark was kept here from the last days of Joshua to the time of Samuel, when it was captured by the Philistines. Many a scene must have been witnessed in this place. Hannah here prayed for a son, devoted her darling Samuel to the Lord and brought his "little coat from year to year." Here, good old Eli saw his sons carry forth the Ark of God on the fatal day of Aphek, and the widowed mother, dying of a broken heart, left the name of "Ichabod" for her infant son destined to see "the glory departed from Israel."

Ten miles further onward and the ancient city of **SHECHEM** is reached. Here Dr. Talmage stopped over night and examined a manuscript of the Pentateuch, written over 3,000 years ago. This city was once called Samaria, and is now known as Nablous. It is situated in a fertile valley running east and west between Mounts Ebal and Gerizim. This valley in Scripture is called "the plain of Moreh." It is the most beautiful landscape in Palestine. Joseph's tomb is located in this vale. **JACOB'S WELL**, where Jesus talked to the woman of Samaria is also here. The well is an excavation in the solid rock, seventy-five feet deep and seven wide; its covering is a stone with a hole in the centre large enough to admit drawing up water with a skin bucket.

Shechem is one of the most sacred classic spots on earth. Abraham had his first residence in Canaan here. Here he built his first altar to God and received one of his earliest promises. The proof is also very strong that his "faith was made perfect" here by offering Isaac on Mount Gerizim. Here, too, Abraham's seed after gaining possession of the Promised Land, assembled to erect an altar and proclaim the law in obedience to Moses' injunction, recorded Deut. xxvii. This vast assemblage of men, women and children, was one of the most august ever witnessed by man on earth. Extending along the plain were the millions of Israel with the banners of their tribes marking their allotted positions; half of the