

**~GALEED (174)**  
**(Gal'e-ed) [Witness Heap]**

- The place in the mountainous region of Gilead East of the Jordan where the patriarchs Jacob and Laban concluded a covenant.
- Then Laban in answer said to Jacob; The daughters are my daughters and the children my children and the flock my flock, and everything you are looking at is mine and my daughters. What can I do against these today or against their children whom they have borne? (**Genesis 31:43**)
- And now, come, let us conclude a covenant, I and you, and it must serve as a witness between me and you. (**Genesis 31:44**)
- Accordingly Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. (**Genesis 31:45**)
- Then Jacob said to his brothers; Pick up stones! And they went taking stones and making a heap. After that they ate there on the heap. (**Genesis 31:46**)
- And Laban began calling it Jegarsahadutha, but Jacob called it **Galeed**. (**Genesis 31:47**)
- And Laban proceeded to say; This heap is a witness between me and you today. That is why he called its name **Galeed**. (**Genesis 31:48**)
- The later name of this region, **Gilead**, was probably drawn from **Galeed**, the name originally given to the spot where this event occurred about **1761 B.C.E.**
- In obedience to divine direction, and without giving notice, Jacob left Paddan-aram and the service of Laban, who was both his uncle and his father-in-law.
- Get up, go to Paddanaram to the house of Bethuel the father of your mother and from there take yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban the brother of your mother. (**Genesis 28:2**)

- With all his belongings, and with his wives and children, Jacob crossed the Euphrates River and headed for the land of Canaan. After three days Laban, accompanied by his brothers, went in pursuit for the distance of a seven days journey, finally overtaking Jacob's caravan in the mountains of **Gilead** north of the torrent valley of Jabbok.
- Then Jacob got up and lifted his children and his wives onto the camels. (**Genesis 31:17**)
- And he began driving all his herd and all the goods that he had accumulated, the herd of his acquisition that he had accumulated in Paddanaram, in order to go to Isaac his father to the land of Canaan. (**Genesis 31:18**)
- Now Laban had gone to shear his sheep. Meantime Rachel stole the teraphim that belonged to her father. (**Genesis 31:19**)
- So Jacob outwitted Laban the Syrian, because he had not told him that he was running away. (**Genesis 31:20**)
- And he proceeded to run away and to get up and cross the River, he and all he had. After that he directed his face to the mountainous region of Gilead. (**Genesis 31:21**)
- Later, on the third day, it was told to Laban that Jacob had run away. (**Genesis 31:22**)
- With that he took his brothers with him and went chasing after him for a distance of seven days journey and caught up with him in the mountainous region of Gilead. (**Genesis 31:23**)
- Then God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night and said to him; Watch yourself that you do not go speaking either good or bad with Jacob. (**Genesis 31:24**)
- So Laban approached Jacob, as Jacob had pitched his tent in the mountain and Laban had encamped his brothers in the mountainous region of **Gilead**. (**Genesis 31:25**)
- Peaceably settling the points over which they had disputed, Jacob and Laban concluded a covenant with each other. In this connection, Jacob set up a stone pillar and directed his brothers to make a heap of stones, perhaps in the form of a table, upon which the covenant meal was eaten.

- Thereupon, Laban called the place after this heap, giving it the Aramaic, Syrian, name Jegar-sahadutha, but which Jacob called **Galeed**, the **Hebrew** equivalent. Laban said; This heap **Hebrew**, *gal*, is a witness **Hebrew**, *'edh*, between me and you today.
- And now, come, let us conclude a covenant, I and you, and it must serve as a witness between me and you. (**Genesis 31:44**)
- Accordingly Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. (**Genesis 31:45**)
- Then Jacob said to his brothers; Pick up stones! And they went taking stones and making a heap. After that they ate there on the heap. (**Genesis 31:46**)
- And Laban began calling it Jegarsahadutha, but Jacob called it **Galeed**. (**Genesis 31:47**)
- And Laban proceeded to say; This heap is a witness between me and you today. That is why he called its name **Galeed**. (**Genesis 31:48**)
- The heap of stones, and the stone pillar, served as a witness to all passersby. It was as verse 49 says, The Watchtower, **Hebrew** *mits-pah'*, testifying that Jacob and Laban had agreed to preserve the peace between and within their respective families.
- If you go to afflicting my daughters and if you go to taking wives in addition to my daughters, there is no man with us. See! God is a witness between me and you. (**Genesis 31:50**)
- And Laban went on to say to Jacob; Here is this heap and here is the pillar that I have erected between me and you. (**Genesis 31:51**)
- This heap is a witness, and the pillar is something that bears witness, that I will not pass this heap against you and that you will not pass this heap and this pillar against me for harm. (**Genesis 31:52**)
- Let the god of Abraham and the god of Nahor judge between us, the god of their father. But Jacob swore by the Dread of his father Isaac. (**Genesis 31:53**)

- **On later occasions stones were used in a similar fashion as silent witnesses.**
- **So Joshua called twelve men whom he had appointed from the sons of Israel, one man from each tribe. (Joshua 4:4)**
- **And Joshua went on to say to them; Pass ahead of the ark of Yehowah your God to the middle of the Jordan, and lift up for yourselves each one a stone upon his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel. (Joshua 4:5)**
- **In order, that this may serve as a sign in your midst. In case your sons should ask in time to come, saying; Why do you have these stones? (Joshua 4:6)**
- **You must also say to them, Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off from before the ark of Yehowah's covenant. When it passed through the Jordan the waters of the Jordan were cut off, and these stones must serve as a memorial to the sons of Israel to time indefinite. (Joshua 4:7)**
- **And Joshua proceeded to conclude a covenant with the people on that day and to constitute for them a regulation and judicial decision in Shechem. (Joshua 24:25)**
- **Then Joshua wrote these words in the book of God's Law and took a great stone and set it up there under the massive tree that is by the sanctuary of Yehowah. (Joshua 24:26)**
- **And Joshua went on to say to all the people; Look! This stone is what will serve as a witness against us, because it has itself heard all the sayings of Yehowah that he has spoken with us, and it must serve as a witness against you, that you may not deny your God. (Joshua 24:27)**