~LADDER (48)

[Hebrew, sul-lam']

- The only Biblical reference to a ladder is at;
- And he began to dream, and, look! There was a ladder stationed upon the earth and its top reaching up to the heavens, and, look! There were God's angels ascending and descending on it. (Genesis 28:12)
- Where the Hebrew term *sul-lam'* applies to a ladder Jacob beheld in a dream. The patriarch saw a ladder, or perhaps what looked like a rising flight of stones, stationed upon the earth, with its top reaching up to the heavens. God's angels were ascending and descending on the ladder, and a representation of Yehowah God was above it.
- And, look! There was Yehowah stationed above it, and he proceeded to say; I am Yehowah the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land upon which you are lying, to you I am going to give it and to your seed. (Genesis 28:13)
- This ladder with the angels upon it indicates the existence of communication between earth and heaven and that angels minister in an important way between God and those having his approval.
- When Jesus said to his disciples; Most truly I say to you men, you will see heaven opened up and the angels of God ascending and descending to the Son of man, he may have had in mind Jacob's vision.
- He further said to him; Most truly I say to you men, you will see heaven opened up and the angels of God ascending and descending to the Son of man. (John 1:51)
- Scaling ladders were part of siege equipment used during warfare and are frequently depicted on Egyptian and Assyrian monuments. A relief from Nineveh shows the Assyrians employing siege ladders when assaulting Lachish.
- Ladders served other purposes in ancient times, as in the building trades. For instance, they are shown on the Ur-Nammu stele depicting the construction of a ziggurat. Also, in an Assyrian relief

from Tell Halaf, considered to be of the Ninth Century B.C.E, a man is shown climbing a date-palm tree by means of a ladder.