

Monday 13 April 2020

Gen.32,1: *"Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him."*

Mt.28, 5.7: *"The angel said to the women, 'Go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.'"*

Jacob, a cheat and traitor – should he have expected to meet angels on his way, that is, to know that God was with him?

Likewise, Jesus' disciples: After all of them had left him and betrayed him to his fate – should they have expected to be gathered once again by Jesus after his resurrection? Should not Jesus perhaps have started anew with people/disciples more deserving? Should not Jesus have left them as they had left him?

But angels did meet Jacob, bringing the message that God was with him. And Jesus did gather his disciples in Galilee and did call them "my brothers" (Jn.20, 17). This to show that grace really is grace, that God's electing and saving will is at work before, and so that (!), we may respond in faith and forsake sin.

"God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
(Rom.5,8)