

C. We fortify ourselves with praise after the pattern of Jacob in vs. 30, I think. We rejoice in the revelatory work of God and know we have been highly blessed to be honored by His keeping power and faithfulness. We do not see as much of this in this text as we might wish but the substance is there and we can readily see how living with thankfulness allows us to enjoy the Lord more and be more confident in His will.

III. Conclusion: The lessons from the experiences of the patriarch form a platform for our own understanding and growth in the matter of learning to trust the Lord more and more. The recurrence of His blessing, care, and direction becomes a token to us of the way in which His will is directed for blessing and we learn quickly that our salvation is real and God is right for us. There must be a better way to say it than that but that is how I am saying it now and our prayer and trust is that the Lord will continue to allow us to grow as committed children who day by day live and trust in Him.

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## **14. COVENANT COLLEGE (1986)**

### **THE RESURRECTION LIFE: THE LIFE WE NOW LIVE WITH THE RESURRECTED LORD.**

*Introduction to the series:* It is hard to know what moves us to speak on different subjects from time to time. We pray for messages that will be in accord with God's and a blessing to His people while also challenging others to believe and trust His salvation. But in most of my ministry the subjects for discussion rise out of reading and some recent experience or encounter that challenges me on some issue or doctrine. I am not sure what was in the background of this series but I think it grew from a long discussion in which I was impressed with the wonder of being alive in God and rejoicing in Jesus. "What a great life this is" was something I had jotted in my notebook. And on that account I decided to share a bit of my thinking about it with the conference. For this series I not only have the original message outlines but all of the scrap pages and doodle pages that were used beforehand for random thinking...such stuff as should have been thrown away years ago---but got clipped in with the finished work. As with every other subject that comes to a conference, the thinking is only partial and the hope of the speaker is that it will stimulate deeper thinking on the part of the hearer as well as himself.