

JACOB'S VISION

Traditional Bluegrass Gospel; **DATE:** Ca. 1871; **CATEGORY:** Early Gospel Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Stanley Brothers; Ricky Skaggs with Kentucky Thunder; **OTHER NAMES:** Jacob's Ladder; **NOTES:** An early version with extra verses appears as "Jacob's Ladder" in Henry Ramsden Bramley and John Stainer, Christmas Carols New and Old printed in London: Novello, Ewer & Co., ca 1871. On Ricky Skaggs' Soldier of the Cross "Jacob's Vision" features guest vocals from Ralph Stanley and George Shuffler (two-thirds of the trio on the original Stanley Brothers record). The song is related to the Jacob's Ladder songs. Gary B. Reid's notes to *The Stanley Brothers: The Early Years 1958-1961* (Stardy/King KBSCD-7000): Of the song "Jacob's Vision," Ralph Stanley stated that we "learned (that) from Enoch Rose, he was a Free Will Baptist preacher from Caney Ridge, Virginia."

G

Hal - - - le - lu - jah to Je - sus who died on the tree To

D G

raise up this lad - der of mer - cy for me

Press on - ward, climb up - ward, the top is in view There's a

D G

crown of bright glo - ry a wait - ing for you.

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G

Hallelujah to Jesus who died on the tree

D G

To raise up this ladder of mercy for me

Press onward, climb upward, the top is in view

D G

There's a crown of bright glory awaiting for you

As Jacob was traveling, was weary one day

While at night on a stone for a pillow did lay

A vision appeared of a ladder so high

It stood on the earth while the top reached the sky *Chorus*

This ladder is tall and yet so well made

Stood thousands of years and never decayed

High winds from the heavens they reel and they rock

But the angels they guard it from bottom to top *Chorus*