

The God Who “Wrestles”

Gen 32:24-32

Intro:

- God has a personal touch waiting for us
 - His Voice, Eyes, Promises, Training
 - Can't we just choose what we want from Him??
 - Ummmmm.... NO!
- We return to Jacob 2 wives and 11 children later!
 - Jacob has learned to bitterness of deception – Laban
 - 20 years... (31:38,41)
 - Even His wives have battled with jealousy and lies
 - On the eve of the Return, Jacob prayed – vv 9-12

I. Preparing the Man

- Esau and 400 – your brother’s back and ... (32:6)
 - Fear and Distress fill Jacob – hoping for a remnant (8)
- Gifts to appease – (32:13ff)
 - Put a space between them
 - Appease him with presents (20)
- Planning for remnant (22)
 - Sends all across the river
- Jacob did all he could to make peace, but his heart...
 - Troubled and perplexed as it was 20 years ago...
 - Just a lot more to lose...

II. Preparing the Heart

- During the night, a man comes and wrestles
 - Wrestling with thoughts come to life – solitude...
 - Not a boxing match, but hand to hand in close
 - Lots of need for leg and hip power –
 - Put his socket out of joint... no leverage ability
- I will not let you go without a blessing!
 - Are we willing to struggle with our failures and sin?
 - Lk 11:5-9; Mt 15:22-28; Lk 18:1-8 – the path to God
 - Psalms, Job, Lamentations...

III. Preparing the Servant

- What is your NAME?
 - Your name is more than what you are called!
 - Definition of your self and world
 - Jacob the deceiver who wrestled in the womb...
 - ISRAEL! Striven with God, and lived!
- A cripple? What can God do with that???
 - EVERYTHING! The submission of our will & dreams
 - To this day... memorial and heritage of the cost
 - Paul, Mary, Jeremiah, David, and... YOU!

Connections:

- God looks for the time and place of meeting
- When we think we wrestle alone, think again!
- When you face your “Esau” God will be there
- Be able to admit who and what you are
- Even if we walk away limping...
- ...we will walk with His blessing on our hearts!
- Memorials of our victories...
- “who fought with us upon St. Crispen’s day...”

ERROR: undefined
OFFENDING COMMAND: The

STACK:

```
(Gen 32)  
/Title  
( )  
/Subject  
(D:20090128174447-05'00' )  
/ModDate  
( )  
/Keywords  
(PDFCreator Version 0.9.5)  
/Creator  
(D:20090128174447-05'00' )  
/CreationDate  
(Jay)  
/Author  
-mark-
```