

AUGUST 21, 2022

SUMMER SERIES: STORYTELLING

JACOB, THE ANGEL, AND A NAME CHANGE

GENESIS 32:22-32, JOB

The story of Jacob provides vital information about the kind of relationship God has with the creation—and it's not what you think. When we begin to understand the implications, it changes how we relate to questions, doubt, and ultimately ourselves.

It is our resistance to what we experience that makes creativity possible. So don't get rid of resistance like that by going around it or trying to eliminate it...I say to myself, go on seeking, be glad for being sensitive, be glad you're able to go beyond the resistance inside you.

-Brother Roger, Taize Community

Biblical faith is grounded in authenticity...biblical faith is covenantal...biblical faith is about

faithful living _____ in the face of uncertainty. BOTD, Boyd, 77.

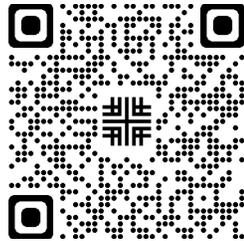
FIRST READING *Genesis 32:22-32*

SECOND CLOSER READING

Genesis 32:22 During the night Jacob quickly took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream along with all his possessions. ²⁴ So Jacob was left alone. Then a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he could not defeat Jacob, he struck the socket of his hip so the socket of Jacob's hip was dislocated while he wrestled with him.

CONNECT

- Need Prayer?
- Ask Questions
- Get information
- Make Comments
- Meet with Pastor Shel
- Sign-up for our weekly e-newsletter
- Join a Home Church



Genesis 32:26 Then the man said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking." "I will not let you go," Jacob replied, "unless you bless me." ²⁷ The man asked him, "What is your name?" He answered, "Jacob."

- **Vv28,30 Resting by a riverbed...a man appears**

The danger is not that God would be harmed by the daylight, but that Jacob would; "If Jacob holds on until daybreak, he is a dead man!"² Jacob refuses to do so until he receives a blessing.

-Terence Fretheim

- **"heel/trickster/over-reacher/supplanter,"**

Genesis 32:28 "No longer will your name be Jacob," the man told him, "but Israel, because you have fought with God and with men and have prevailed."

GOD REPLIES WITH TWO THINGS:

1. Identifying _____
2. By giving Jacob a blessing which we learn is _____

He did not overcome, in the sense of _____ the Lord. He became Israel and "overcame" 'because he had the audacity to wrestle with God and not let him go until he received the "blessing" he was wrestling for' (Boyd, BOTD, 80).

Genesis 32:29 Then Jacob asked, "Please tell me your name." "Why do you ask my name?" the man replied. Then he blessed Jacob there. ³⁰ So Jacob named the place Peniel, explaining, "Certainly I have seen God face to face and have survived."

Genesis 32:31 The sun rose over him as he crossed over Penuel, but he was limping because of his hip. ³² That is why to this day the Israelites do not eat the sinew which is attached to the socket of the hip, because he struck the socket of Jacob's hip near the attached sinew.

KEY LEARNINGS

The Name Change is also a Faith Change

- Jacob to Israel

- Note about Job...

Certainly, we all experience times when we feel as if we are wrestling with God. And many of us are marked by the wounds we have sustained from our struggles. This text reminds us that God is wrestling with us, and we grow in that process. - Sara M. Koenig