

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Dec '18.....Genesis 25-27.....The Deceiver
- 2) 09 Dec.....Genesis 28.....Not Alone
- 3) 16 Dec.....Genesis 29-30.....Family?
- 4) 23 Dec.....Luke 1 – Christmas Message.....Promise Kept
- 5) 30 Dec.....Genesis 30-31.....Home!
- 6) 06 Jan '19.....Genesis 32.....Transformed**
- 7) 13 Jan.....Genesis 33.....Reconciled
- 8) 20 Jan.....Sanctity of Life.....Protect and Save
- 9) 27 Jan.....Genesis 34-36.....Assurance
- 10) 03 Feb.....Genesis 37.....Accept It
- 11) 10 Feb.....Genesis 38-39.....Tempted
- 12) 17 Feb.....Genesis 40-41.....Opportunity Knocks
- 13) 24 Feb.....Genesis 42-50.....Reunited

INTRODUCTION

- Jacob wrestles with a Heavenly Being and is never the same again. Are we saying a puny human whipped up on Heaven's best? How can that be?
- Can we wrestle with God to get something from Him?
- Can we even negotiate with God to get our way?

Passage	Comments
32:1-2	<p>The Angels of God Met Jacob at "Two Camps"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahanaim is mentioned 13x in the OT as a city of Gad – about 40 miles north of the Dead Sea • These 2 verses don't say much, but that doesn't mean they are unimportant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Angels have a function to minister to God's servants, though, we are not aware of them Heb 1:14 ◆ In this case, they reveal themselves – possibly as an encouragement to Jacob ◆ Jacob acknowledges they are from God ('this is God's camp') and marks the place – and it becomes a reference point for several other biblical journeys to start, end, or march through..... Jos 21:38; 2Sam 2:8 ◆ Do you have any vivid points of remembrance where God had a major impact on your life?
32: 4-8	<p>Time to Reconcile with Big Brother Esau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esau traveled about 150 miles to meet Jacob • vv6-8. Jacob was courteous to send an advanced notice to Esau, but was surprised at Esau's response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 400 men could be considered a warring party ◆ Remember, Abraham had an army of 318 to rescue Lot from marauders..... Gen 14:14 ◆ Jacob had feelings like the rest of us under life & death situations → Great fear; he was distressed; and he acted before praying ◆ Jacob seemingly acted wisely by separating his possessions – hoping not to lose everything; Or was Jacob a coward and acted out of fear? • Should reconciliation with family be this difficult? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Who should make the 1st move?..... Rom 12:18 ◆ Should it not be the most spiritually mature? "He that's in the know should be the 1st to go" ◆ BUT what if the offended party doesn't want to reconcile?..... 2Cor 5:18
32:9-12	<p>Jacob's Prayer for Deliverance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v9. Jacob called God, not his God, but his father's God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Recall earlier that Jacob would not call God his God or "my God" till God had successfully allowed him to return to his father's house Gen 28:21 • vv10-12. Jacob acknowledged his worthlessness, God's greatness, and asks for mercy in deliverance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ What deliverance has God performed for you?

Passage	Comments
32:13-23	<p>A Timely Gift Can Appease the Hardest Hearts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v20. Jacob prepared a tremendous gift to appease Esau's anger and he made preparation for a speedy rendezvous as he sent everything to the other side of the river the day before. Did Jacob overdo it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ How much effort or expense should it take to reconcile with loved ones? Are we willing to pay it? ◆ What kind of gifts should be given?.. Prov 18:16; 21:14
32:24-32	<p>Jacob Wrestled with God & Got a Blessing & a Curse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does someone wrestle w/ God? Is it in persistent prayer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe Lk 18:1-8 • Some people who spent all night in prayer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus Luke 6:12 Samuel 1Samuel 15:11 David 2Samuel 12:16 Nehemiah Nehemiah 1:5-6 • Should we persist with our original prayer request(s), or if not answered, adjust it till we get an answer; or if we know God's will shall we acquiesce to His solution? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Can we negotiate with God for a different or modified solution? Is God ever flexible? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe/Depends <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know 1. Abraham pleaded for Sodom..... Gen 18:16-32 2. Moses pleaded for Israel's survival..... Ex 32:9-14 3. Hezekiah got 15 more years..... 2Kings 20:1-11 4. Ezekiel made out a little better..... Ezek 4:12-15 5. Jesus, however, was not successful in getting God to consider Plan B (remove this cup). Mat 26:39-42 ◆ Consider This. Know the difference between being biblically persistent and being obnoxious or we could receive "leanness to our soul" for praying for things just to satisfy our lust..... Ps 160:13-15 • God's Angel (a probable Christophany) smote Jacob with a limp. Why would God resort to injuring Jacob with a life-long malady? Does He do the same to us? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Some reasons God may afflict His saints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's Purpose (e.g., genetic disposition) ... Ex 4:11 2. God's Glory Ps 142:7 3. Testing Job; Luke 4:1-13 4. Instructive Ps 119:71; Luke 15:11-17 5. Cause & Effect (e.g., poor diet) ... Dan 1:8,12,13,15 6. Preventive (humbling)..... 2Cor 12:7 7. Happenstance (e.g., floods & fire) Mat 5:45 8. Chastisement (due to sin)..... Rev 3:19 • God also blessed Jacob with a new name – Israel • Jacob, again, marks the place – Peniel – "facing God"

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Remember, we have been given the ministry of reconciliation ([2Cor 5:18](#)). Take it seriously, for by it, we heal family and church rifts and we bring others to Christ.

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 33. Esau showed grace to Jacob by running to him and embracing him like a long lost brother, but Jacob just deceived Esau one more time by telling Esau he will meet him at Seir, but Jacob detoured to Succoth instead, 100 miles away.

