

Wrestling With God

Jacob's
Journey
to Faith



Jacob Wrestles With People

Wrestling Esau

In the womb (Gen. 25:22-23)

At birth (Gen. 25:24-26)

For the birthright (Gen. 25:27-34)

For the blessing (Gen. 27:35-36)

Wrestling Laban

For Rachel (Gen. 29:15-30)

For wages and independence (Gen. 30-31)

Jacob Meets Esau Again – Genesis 32

Preparations

Divides family for protection

Sends gifts to appease Esau

His prayer (v. 9-12)

Appeals to God's promises

Humbles himself

Self-reliance → trusting God

Jacob Wrestles With God

Who is this man?

An angel (Hosea 12:3-4)

God (Gen. 32:30)

Jacob prevails, but...

Is broken (v. 25,31)

Begs for blessing (v. 26, Hos. 12:4, Heb. 7:7)

Faces his sinful past to receive grace for the future (v. 27-28)

Jacob Wrestles With God

God wrestles with Jacob to teach him to stop relying on himself and instead trust in God's blessings.

Lessons

We are foolish to try to control everything

We cannot control life (Matt. 6:27)

We cannot control people (2 Cor. 4:2)

We are faithful when we trust God and persevere

We must rely on God's promises (Heb. 13:5-6)

We must not give up (Rom. 15:30, Phil. 3:13-14, Heb. 4:11)

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