

July 20 & 21, 2019



JACOB

1. Jacob took his brother's heel when born.

Genesis 25:25-26 *The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.*

2. Jacob took his brother's birthright.

Genesis 25:33-34 *So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.*

3. Jacob took his father's blessing.

Genesis 27: 29 *"May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed."*

4. Jacob took his uncle's business.

Genesis 30:42-43 *So the weak animals went to Laban and the strong ones to Jacob. In this way the man grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.*

Jacob took deceitfully from God and others!

"I will take my ambitions, anxieties, and aspirations out on others."

Pivotal Moment: Jacob wrestled with God on his way to face his past.

Genesis 32:24-25 *So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.*

Jacob was renamed Israel because he finally came to the end of himself.

Genesis 32:28 *Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."*

ISRAEL

Israel took a knee to God and his brother!

1. Seeking forgiveness involves:

- a. Recognition – I took something from you.
- b. Remorse – I know that was wrong.
- c. Reversal – I'm living differently now.

2. There's a right way and a wrong way to get ahead.

3. Jacob to Israel: I will wrestle with God, not others, about if, how, and when his future blessings will unfold for me!

"I will take my ambitions, anxieties, and aspirations to God."