



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.

“Beautiful Body-Slam”

From the Series,
“Jacob 180”

Genesis 32:22-32

Preached Sunday PM 5/18/14

Meadow Baptist Church

1. The Precursors of the Slam (various Genesis passages)

- a. There had been a previous personal encounter with God (Gen. 28:11-16)
- b. Jacob had been enduring a life of struggle, frustration, toil, and then some outward success (Genesis 29-31)
- c. Jacob was thrust by God into overwhelming circumstances, resulting in Jacob’s fear (Genesis 32:1-12)

2. The Pain in the Slam (22-27)

- a. Jacob’s confinement (22-24a) - “He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. 24 And Jacob was left alone...”
- b. Jacob’s conflict (24b-25a) - “...a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob...”
- c. Jacob’s contact (25a) - “...he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.”
- d. Jacob’s commitment (25b-26) - “Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”
- e. Jacob’s confession (27) - “And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, Jacob.”

The last time he had been asked his name, Jacob lied. Beautiful body-slams bring the truth out of us.

Transforming Truth

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3. The Power from the Slam (28-32)

- a. Jacob received a renewed identity (28a) - "Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel..."
- b. Jacob experienced an expanded capacity (28b) - "...for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed."
- c. Jacob expressed an inner curiosity (29) - "Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him."
- d. Jacob survived a stunning reality (29-30) - "So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."
- e. Jacob continued marked with humility (31-32) - "The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip..."