

Jan. 21, 2018
Jacob

I. Jacob's life.

Esau's pledge to kill Jacob. Genesis 27:41-43 NIV

The wrestling match with God. Genesis 32:23-31 NIV

II. Six Observations:

1. Jacob is fearful of the mess he and his mom got him into.
He tries to handle the matter with his own plan.
Protecting himself – he stays back alone.
2. He ends up in a wrestling match, that wasn't initiated by him.
The wrestling match lasts all night. Jacob will not give in. He has to have his socket put out of place in order stop.
3. His name is changed from Jacob to Israel.
Israel comes from Hebrew Isra – meaning to fight and El – God. It actually means God fights for Jacob.
4. Jacob names the place Peniel, which means a vision of God. So in effect Jacob is wrestling with God.

This is another of the theophanies in the O.T. Where we see God take a new form. Perhaps as some of the commentaries say, it is to prepare us for the coming of Christ in the 2nd person of the Trinity in the N.T. So here we have the incident of God wrestling with Jacob.

5. Jacob won't let go of God until he receives a blessing.

6. Jacob walks with a limp.

III. Six Applications:

Application 1. Consequences are real.

Application 2. God wants us to trust in him, not ourselves.

Application 3. God has a new identity for us.

Application 4. God comes after us, he doesn't let go.

Application 5: God wants to leave a legacy through you.

Application 6. We are to cling to God.