

MESSAGE FROM THE WORD

Genesis 32:22-32

May 18, 2008

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. 25 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. 26 Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." 27 The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.

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

29 Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

- Wrestling

Wrestling With The LORD

1. The Wrestling Matches

- Jacob's wrestling matches
 - Past wrestling situations:
 - Genesis 25:21-22 Wrestling began in the _____.
 - Genesis 27:35-36 Jacob was committed to _____.
 - The present situation: *That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maidservants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23 After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. 24 So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. Genesis 32:22-24*
 - The present opponent: "You have struggled with _____."
 - A spiritual striving that involved a physical struggle.
- Our wrestling matches
 - Past wrestling situations
 - The present situation
 - The present opponent: You have struggled with _____.

2. The Wrestling Results

- Blessing in spite of Jacob's actions
- Blessings because of Jesus' wrestling with:
 - _____ in the wilderness
 - _____ in the Garden of Gethsemane
 - _____ on the cross
- Blessings through Jacob's wrestling
 - *"No longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome.... Then he blessed him."*
- Blessing in spite of our actions
- Blessings because of Jesus' wrestling
- Blessings through our wrestling
 - "God delights to let us _____ over _____ on the basis of humble believing prayer."
 - A spiritual striving that involved a physical struggle.
 - Commitment to the LORD and his promises.

"My Savior, I will not let you go unless you bless me."