

# EXCEPT THOU BLESS ME

## GENESIS 32

Text: Genesis 32:26

### **Genesis 32:26**

<sup>26</sup> And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

Introduction:

Jacob was one of the most interesting men in the Bible. He was favored by his mother while his brother was favored by his father.

This led to many problems later on in life.

Because of his desire he took Esau's birthright for a bowl of pottage.

Genesis 25:29-34

And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: [30] And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. [31] And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. [32] And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? [33] And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. [34] Then Jacob gave

Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

Because of his deception he became despised by Esau, which led to him having to depart.

Genesis 27:41

And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

Jacob began to work for Laban where he married Laban's two daughters, Leah and Rachael. He lived and worked for Laban for twenty years.

Genesis 31:38

This twenty years have I been with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten.

Laban's countenance toward Jacob changed, God told Jacob it was time to return back home.

Genesis 31:12-13

And he said, Lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle are ringstraked, speckled, and grisled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee. [13] I am the God of Bethel, where

thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

That brings us to our text. Jacob is on his way back home, when he learns that Esau was on his way to meet Jacob with 400 men, which caused great fear to Jacob. He decides to split up into two different groups thinking that if Esau killed the one company of people then the other may escape. Jacob decides that he would send ahead his servants with gifts for Esau hoping that it may appease Esau and lessen Esau's anger.

Following the gifts he then sends his family ahead and he remain and spent the night awaiting the meeting of his brother the next day. Who knows what may happen on the morrow.

However that night was a night that would change his life forever. While Jacob was alone that night the Bible says that he wrestled with a man.

Note with me:

### 1. Jacob's Contact (vs 24-26)

Genesis 32:24-26

And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. [25] And when

he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. [26] And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

Hosea 12:3-4

He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God: [4] Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us;

- A. There was a struggle involved.
- B. Many want God's blessings without any struggle or cost.
- C. There are often difficulties and trials in our days on this earth.
- D. Despite the difficulties, Jacob didn't give up or quit.
- E. Too many are ready to give up and give in when struggles come, but this unnamed wrestler didn't prevail.

2. Jacob's Confession (vs. 27-28)

## Genesis 32:27-28

And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. [28] And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

The only reason that God ask us a question is for a confession!

- God knew what his name was.
- God knew where Adam and Eve were when He ask in the garden where art thou.

This question caused Jacob to confess who he was.

Jacob's name meant - deceiver, and surplanter.

- A. Jacob had to confess that he was a deciever.
- B. It's not that we don't understand who God we fail to see who we are.
- C. We need to see God as He is: High, Holy and Lifted up and we will see ourselves for who we truly are, and understand that we need God's blessings every day.

### Galatians 3:13-14

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: [14] That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

D. Though we're not worthy of the blessings that we receive, because of Christ we're blessed people.

E. Jacob received a blessing. (vs 29)

### Genesis 32:29

And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

### 3. Jacob's Change (vs 30-32)

#### Genesis 32:28

And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

#### Genesis 32:30-32

And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved. [31] And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon

him, and he halted upon his thigh. [32] Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

A. His name is changed from Jacob the deceiver to Israel which means one who prevails and has power with God.

B. His walk is changed. He never walked the same again.

C. We too should seek God, prevail, and we should never be the same.

Close:

It's time that Christians get tired of the routine, and determine for God to do something in our live personally, allow God to change us forever, and never walk the same.