

A Place for Me

A Place to Wrestle with God

September 22, 2019 / Dan Solofra

¹ *Jacob also went on his way, and **the angels of God met him.***

² *When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is the camp of God!" So he named that place Mahanaim. . . .⁶ When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother **Esau**, and now he is coming to meet you, and **four hundred men are with him.**"⁷ In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well.⁸ He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape." Genesis 32:1-2,6-8, NIV*

Our wrestling match with God begins when life

_____ contradict God's _____.

²² *That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants 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, NIV*

At some point you need to stop _____ and _____ past mistakes.

The wrestling match is coming between _____ and _____.

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.**" Genesis 32:25-26, NIV*

In this match, God is your _____, but not your _____.

The object of the match: Don't _____ of God.

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 humans and have overcome." Genesis 32:27-28, NIV*

In my wrestling match(es) with God, I come out the other side a _____ than I was before it happened.

²⁹ *Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.*

³⁰ *So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared." Genesis 32:29-30, NIV*

It is only because of _____ that we can face God, let alone wrestle him.

³¹ *The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. Genesis 32:31, NIV*

Israel was given a _____ for his victory.

His limp would keep him from _____ and remind him of the true source of his _____.

MEMORY VERSE

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." Genesis 32:28, NIV*

My next step: I will stop running and rationalizing my past. I will face God in a wrestling match. I will hold on to him and his promises for confidence and strength in my life.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.