

Wrestling with God — *Genesis 32*

- 1 A couple of crazy **wrestling** stories?
[Redundant] [Dory Funk, Jr. Fritz von Erich]
[Joel Norththrup & Cassy Herkelman]
- 2 Crazier, far more important, Esau wrestled God!
How will Jacob **face** his **brother** Esau?
This is a **tale** of ... *Genesis 32:1-12*
 - 2a • Two **armies** *vs. 1-2*
 - 2b • Two **brothers** *vs. 3-5 — Prov. 18:19a*
 - 2c • Two **options** *vs. 6-12 — Js 1:8 1 Kings 18:21*
- 3 Destiny comes down to 2 “men” who **wrestle** in night.
But this **weird**, just plain **weird!** *vs. 22-32*
If we are honest, we have been here, too, ... with **sin** ...
with **uncertainty** ... with **fear**.
- 4 When faith is **crowded** out by these, we’re left **alone**
... with own **scheming**, by the Jabbok River! *vs. 24*
You’ve been here, too, haven’t you? Tossed & turned all
night — cried to God, angry, ignored, blamed, resisted.
Morning more exhausted than when crawled into bed!
If understand Jacob’s **issue**, we’ll understand our own.
- 5 Meeting Esau wasn’t Jacob’s most **important** meeting!
 - 5a • He met **God** *vs. 30*
 - 5b • He met **himself** *vs. 27*
- 6 Had to come face to face with the real issue:
Will he be Jacob, the **weasel** and **cheat**, or Israel who
is **surrendered** to the **will** and **way** of God?
 - 6a ★ He is given a new **name** *vs. 28*
[Israel = God Mastered Man]
 - 6b ★ He is confronted with **hard** grace *vs.30*
Can’t force blessing, get name — open hands
 - 6c ★ He walks away with a **limp** *vs. 31*
[The crippling that crowns]
- 7 [Guy at light - felt sorry - got excited - felt convicted]
 - 7a Only we way we get into **heaven** is with a **limp!**
If Jesus entered with scars, how us without a limp!