

Jesus in Genesis Series

Week 7 outline

11.6.22

Genesis 32:1-32

JESUS: OUR ADVOCATE

I. **A Work In Progress** (Gen ch25-35)

A. Jacob and his Identity

-Jacob means heel grabber, the cheater, the twister, the deceiver

B. Jacob and the dysfunction

-in his manipulation with Esau

-and through his journey with Laban and marriages to Rachel and Leah

-God extends his love to an unlovely sinner; not because of the kind of person Jacob was... but IN SPITE of the person Jacob was!

II. **The Turning Point Begins** (Gen 32:1-21)

A. **Great Fear and Distress** (vs 1-21)

Jacob turns to...

1. Self-Preservation (vs 7-8)

-He divides

-He looks to escape

2. Last-Chance Prayers (vs9-12)

-“save me, I pray”

-this is the first time Moses records Jacob praying in his whole life

3. Self- Reliance (vs 13-18)

-a gift basket of 600 animals

-flattery with words “my lord Esau, your servant Jacob”

4. Manipulation (vs19-21)

-he thought “*I will pacify him with the gifts*”

B. **Wrestling in the Dark** (vs 22-29)

1. Jacob Broken (vs 22-26a)

-Jacob has been wrestling all his life...

-if the sun rose and Jacob saw God’s face, he would not survive it.

-His life was literally in danger yet Jacob still begged God to stay- who would do that?

2. Jacob Bestowed (vs26b-28)

-“What’s your name” ... in other words... “who are you?”

-and then God bestows on him a new name: with a whole new identity:

-“your name will be called Israel: literally meaning “God Fights” or “God strives”

3. Jacob Blessed (vs 29-32)

-Jacob’s heavenly father gives Jacob what he had desired from his earthly father and had attempted his whole life to grab on his own

4. Jacob Becoming (Gen 35:21)

-His life will no longer be known for what he has done- but for what God will do

III. Jesus >GREATER THAN> Jacob (John 4:10-12; John 1:50-51)

A. Jacob- was full of deceit and greed

-But Jesus is full of grace and truth (John 1:15)

B. Jacob- grasped for the blessings of God from the very start

-But Jesus did not consider equality with God something to be grasped (Phil 2)

C. Jacob- wrestled with God alone to gain his own blessing

-But Jesus wrestled alone in the darkness of Gethsemane to gain a blessing for us
(Mark 14:32-36)

D. Jacob- could not look at the face of his adversary and live

-But in Jesus, our advocate, we gain the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in His face (2 Cor 4:6)

IV- Our Story. Our Name. Our Identity —Jesus

-this is the story of us as we encounter the Gospel

A. God Breaks Us of our Self Reliance

-We will never outpace our weakness. But our weakness is a reminder of God's goodness. It is a gift.

-Jacob's name changed after his brokenness, not after his abundance

B. God Blesses Us with His Presence

-Jacob's blessing was not marked by a new found strength in himself but by a permanent limp he would carry the rest of his life.

C. God Bestows Us with A New Name

-with the name that is above every name- the name of Jesus; and in that new name He gives us a new identity and makes us a new creation

FOLLOWERS OF JESUS DON'T WALK WITH A SWAGGER
WE WALK WITH A LIMP