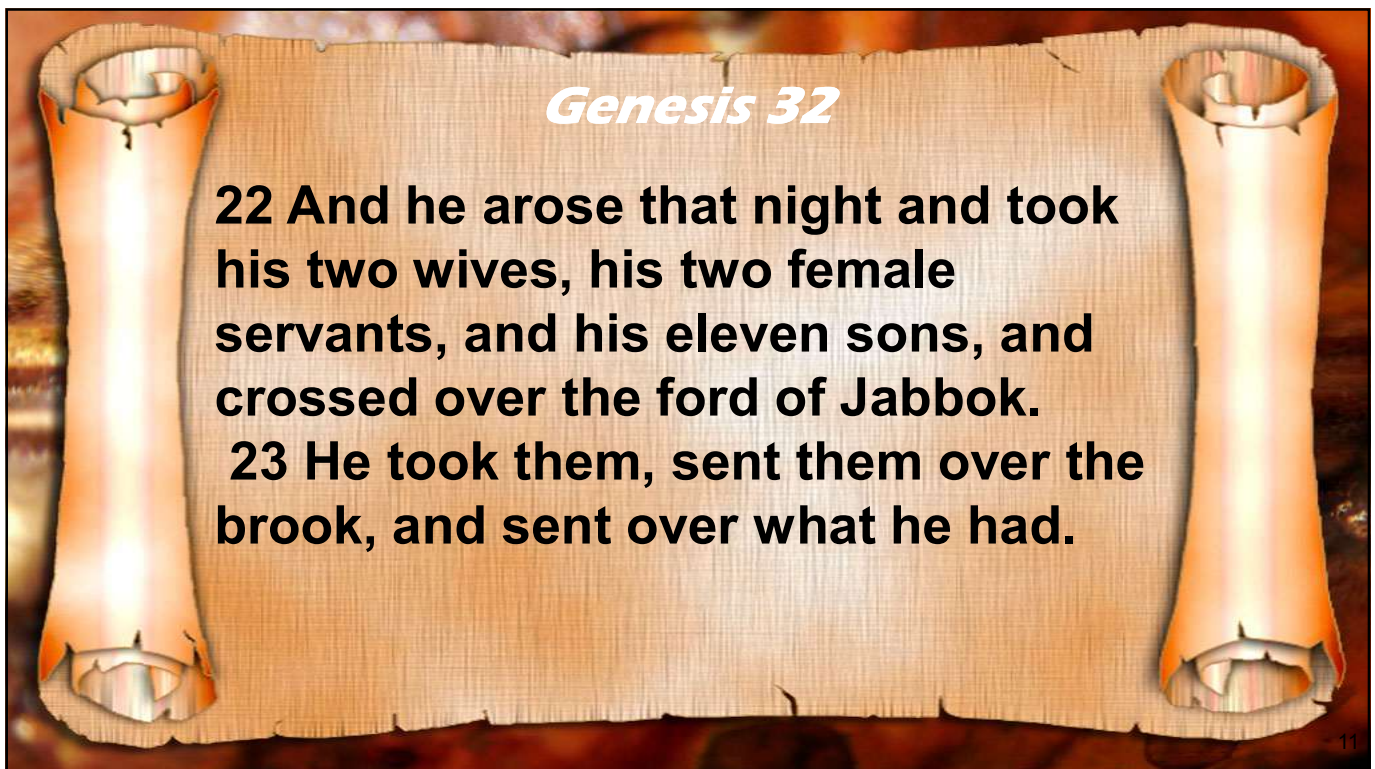
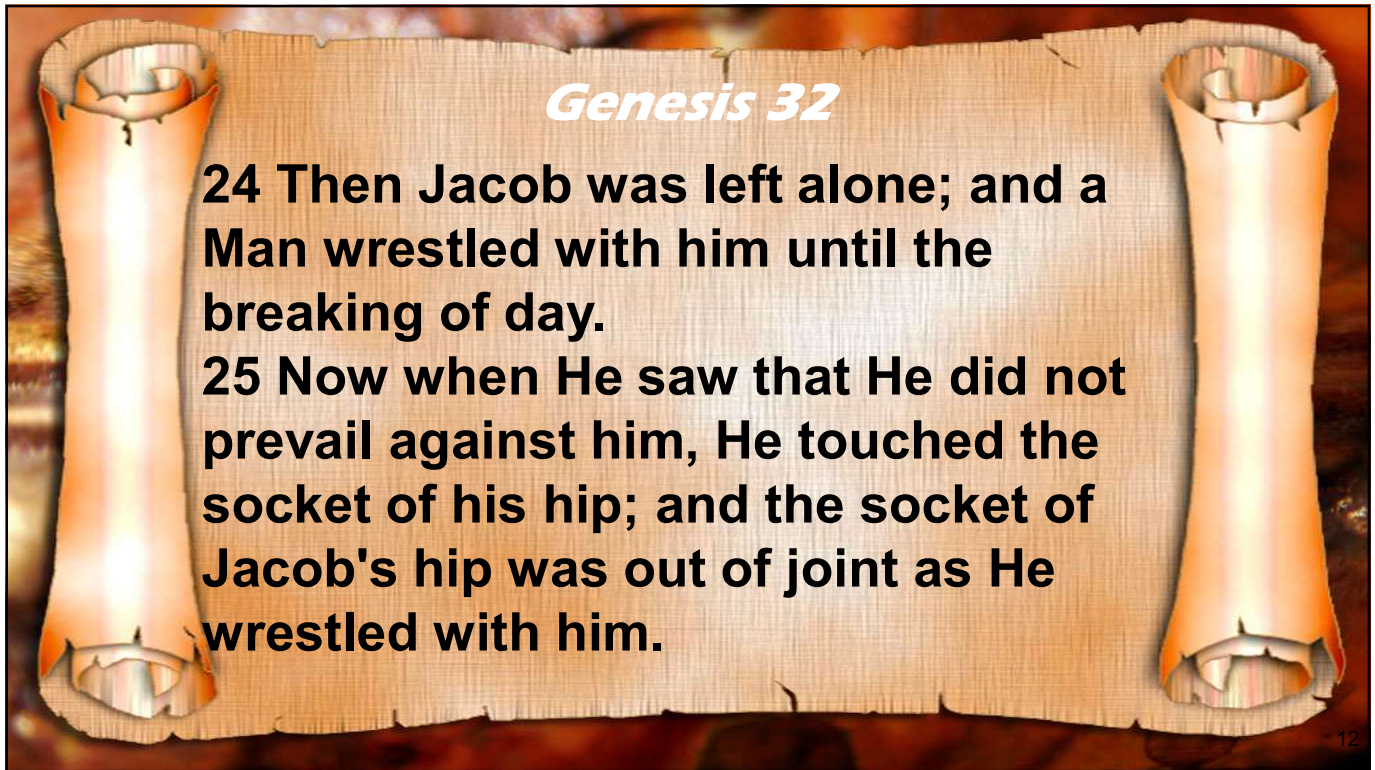




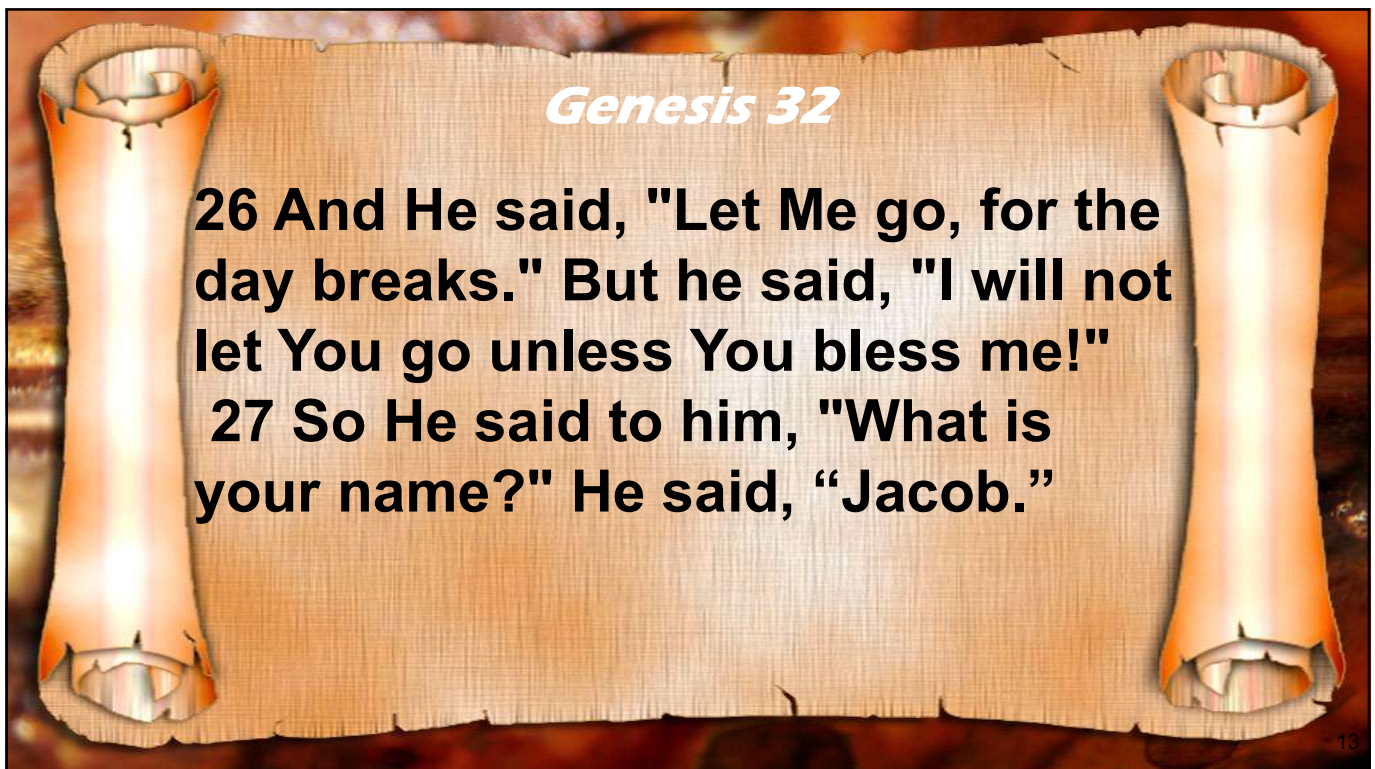
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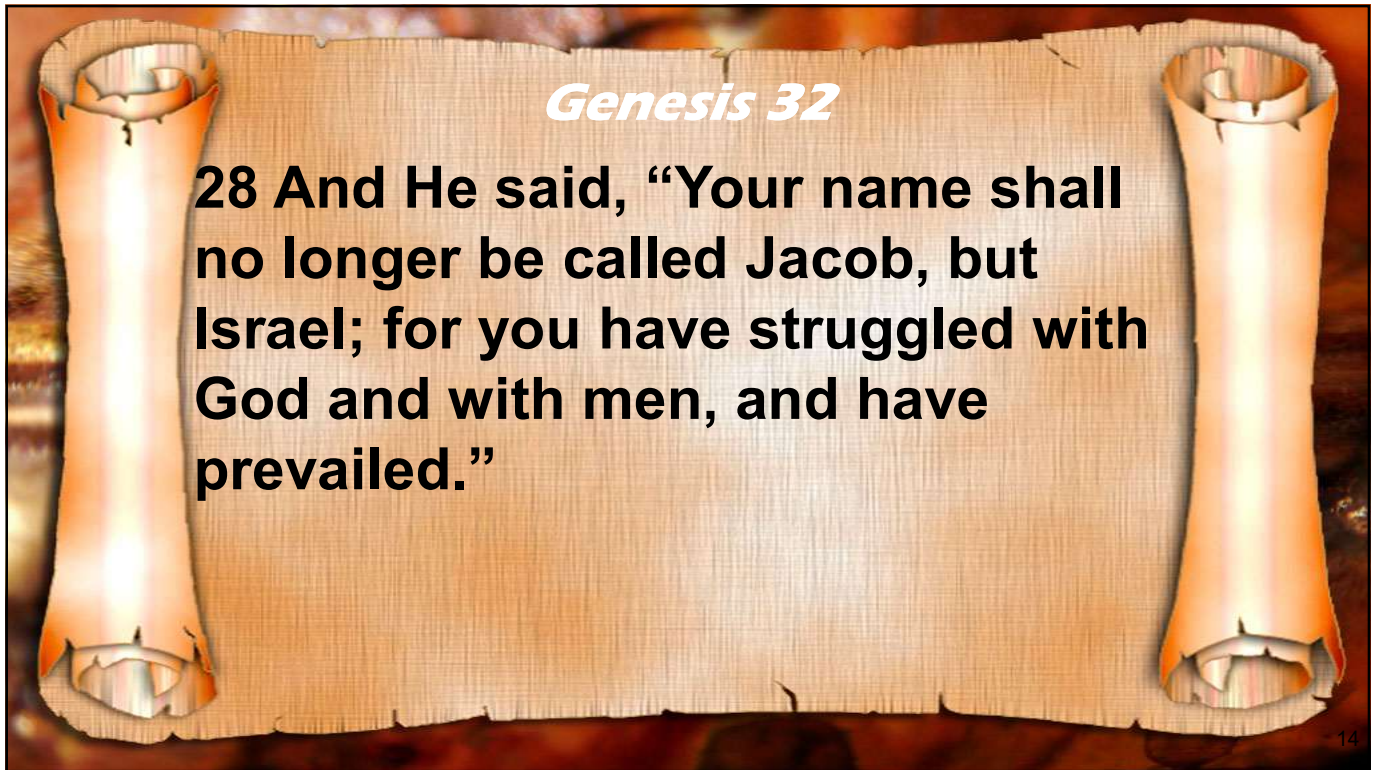
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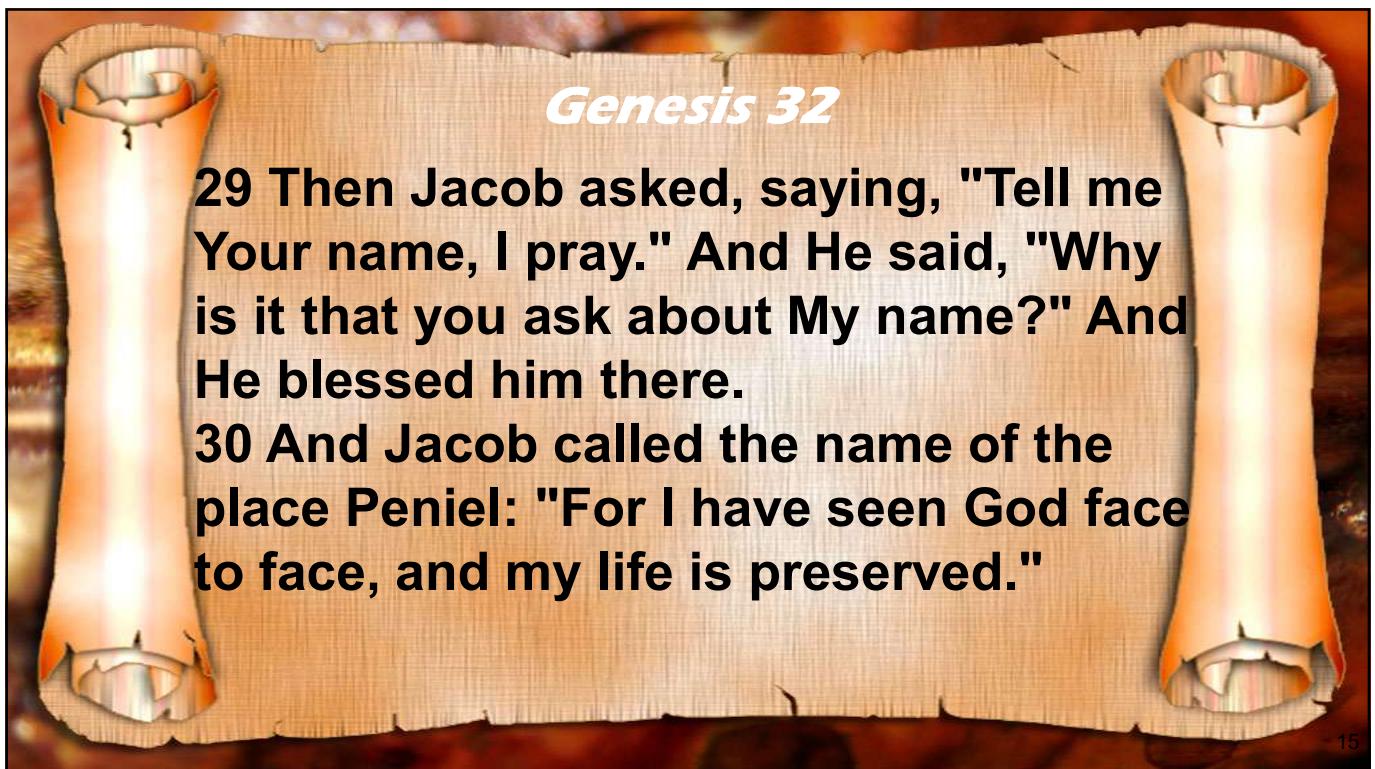
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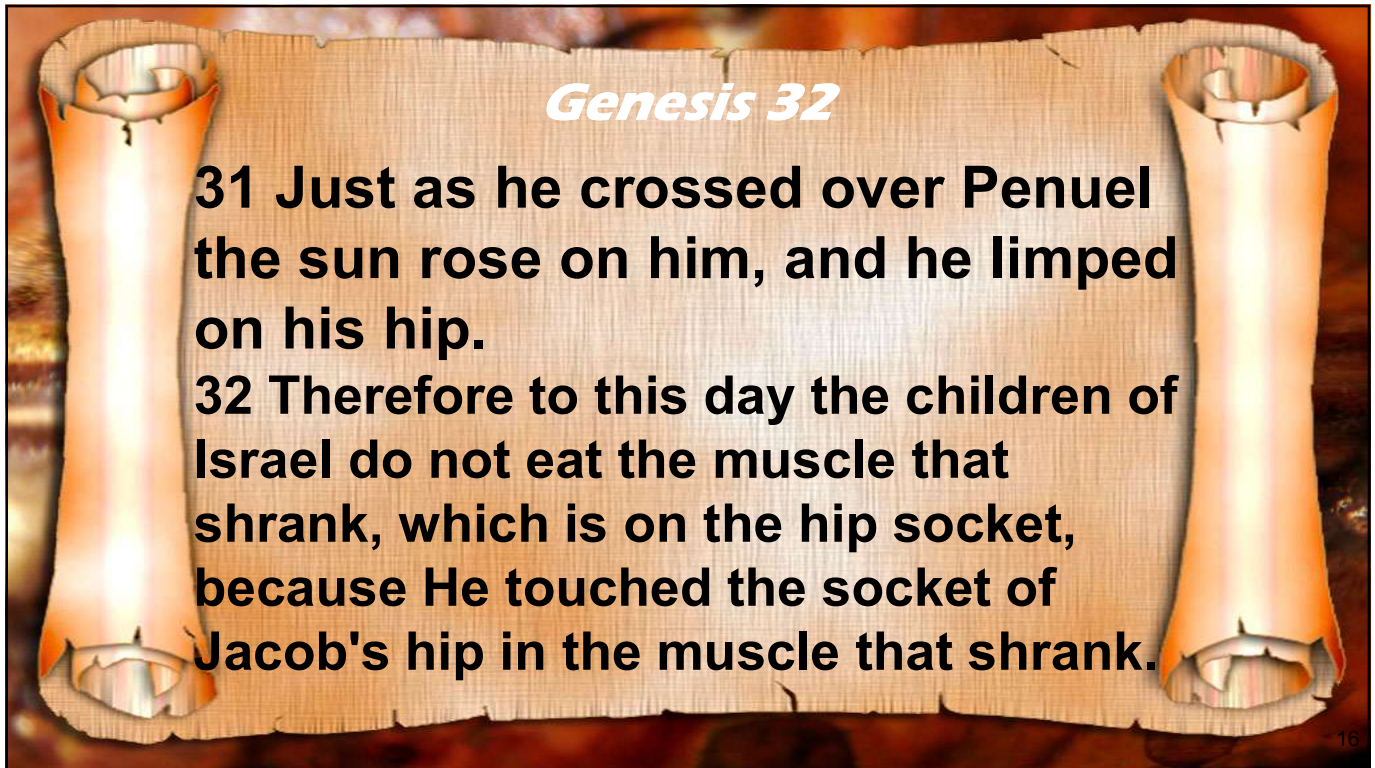
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14



15



16



17

Jacob

**Patriarch
Prodigal Son of the OT
Complex
Bag of Tricks**



18

18

Jacob

=

**heel or heel grabber (fighter)
in the negative = to deceive**

The God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob



19

19

Jacob & Esau

Genesis 32

1st meeting in 20 years

- **Esau:** "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright, and now look, he has taken away my blessing!"



20

20

Genesis 27:41

...So Esau hated Jacob

Esau said in his heart, "The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob."



21

21

Genesis 32

- **Esau is coming, bringing 400 men**

**Jacob prays
Jacob schemes**

Jacob is always trying to control things.



22

22

Faith Lesson

- **Jacob prays but fails to trust God.
Is this possible?**

**Pray and trust God with the
process and the outcome.**

23

23

5 Waves of Gifts for Esau

- **Wave 1: 200 female goats, 20 male goats**
- **Wave 2: 200 female sheep, 20 rams**
- **Wave 3: 30 female camels with their young**
- **Wave 4: 40 cows, 10 bulls**
- **Wave 5: 20 female donkeys, 10 male donkeys**

Total gifts: 550 animals

Why is this important to know?

Jacob is trying to manipulate Esau. This is his way.

24

24

(vs 24) Jacob is alone

....with his thoughts

....with the hauntings of his past sins

....with the fears of what might happen

God knows how to get you alone!



25

Faith Lesson

- **In order to truly meet God, it has to be deeply personal.**

- **When it comes right down to it, you and I have to encounter God for ourselves.**
- **God says, I want you alone – don't bring them, don't bring that – just you & ME.**



26

Jacob is **Terrified & Stressed-Out**

**At this point, Jacob thinks Esau is his big problem.
But God has a different idea.**



27

God comes and Wrestles with Jacob

**(vs 24) Then Jacob was left alone;
and a Man wrestled with him
until the breaking of day.**

- **Wrestled = to kick up the dust, grapple**



28

Why?

Why did God “wrestle” with him (with us)?

“your biggest problem is with ME”

**“Well, now, I’m going to grab you!!! In hopes to
awaken you from your delusion!”**



29



(vs 25) Now when He (God) saw that He did not prevail against him (Jacob)

- **Now we see Jacob wrestling with God.**
- **God wants you to fight with him.**

Until you begin to wrestle with the ONE who created you, you will be lost.

30

30

The Turning Point (vs 25)

- **God reaches out and dislocates his hip.**
- **God knew He had to bring **pain** in order to bring transformation.**



31

The Blessing of Weakness



- **And through all the pain, he cries out to God, "I will not let you go until you bless me"**
- **It's in our weakness, we find the blessing of God.**

Humility

32

Recap

- **God grabs hold of Jacob, Jacob grabs hold of God.**
 - **This is a picture of life.**
 - ✓ **A wrestling match with God, until you and I finally get it.**
 - ✓ **God: I'm your problem – you are fighting against ME.**
 - ✓ **Trying to be your own God, striving, conniving, cheating will lead to your destruction.**
- Your problem is not everyone else
or everything else, it's GOD.**

33

33

Jacob:

"I will not let You go until you bless me."

**He went from "fighting"
to "holding on" to God.**

**He finally realizes that God is the only ONE
who can really bless him!**

34

34



***What
is
your
name?***

"Jacob"

35

"Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but **Israel; for you have **struggled with God** and with men, and have prevailed."**

36

36

† Then he faces Esau (Ch 33)

- **When you face God, you can face the Esau's of life – the things that threaten.**
- **Jacob walked with a limp, but he was walking with God.**
- **It's better to walk with a limp and walk with God than to high-step your way to destruction.**



37

Truth

- **You meet Jesus in the fight of your life.**
- **You wrestle with Jesus until you know that He is the only ONE who can bring real blessing, the blessing you've been longing for.**



38

Truth

You find Jesus!
Then you find out who you really are!

- **You win this fight by losing, meeting your match, meeting your Maker.**



39

39

Letter

40

Numbers 6:24-26

24 "The LORD bless you and keep you;

25 The LORD make His face shine upon
you, and be gracious to you;

26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon
you, and give you peace."

41