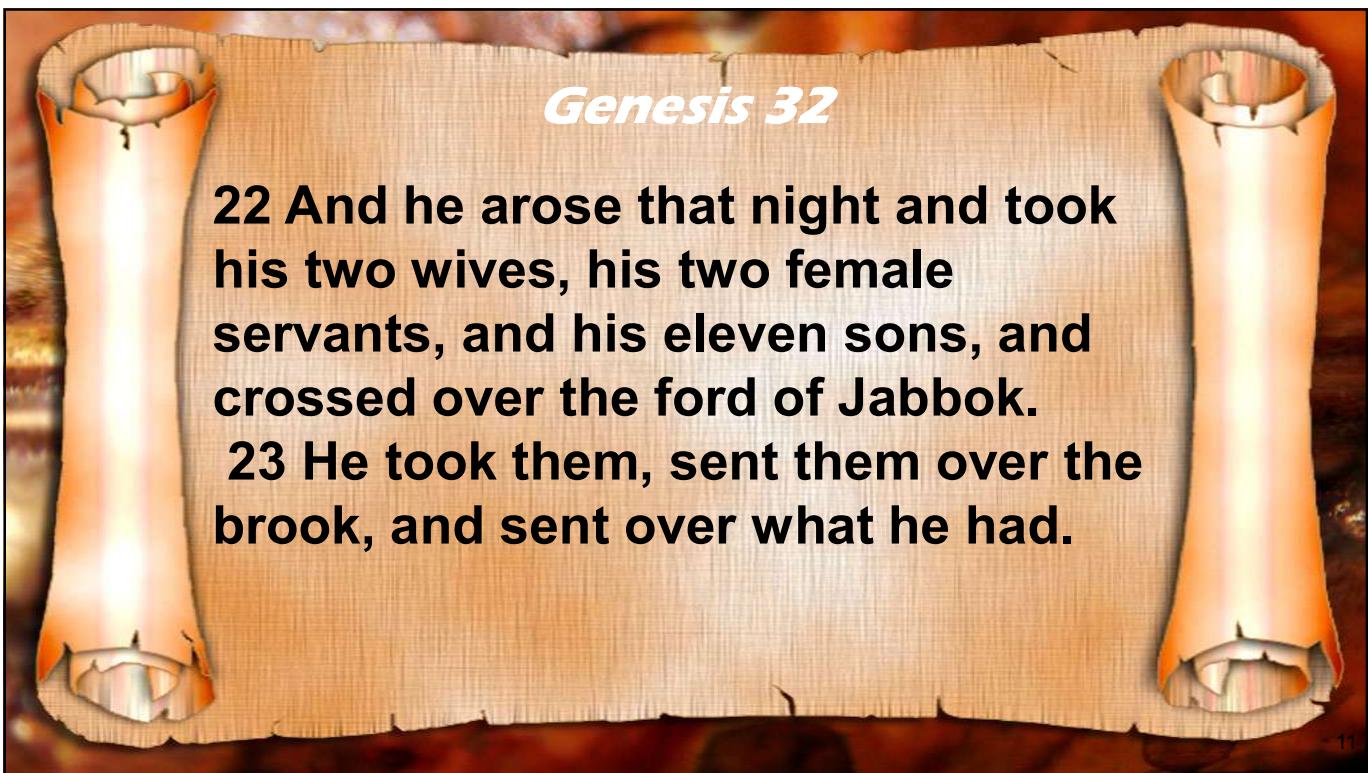


10



11

***Genesis 32***

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

**25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.**

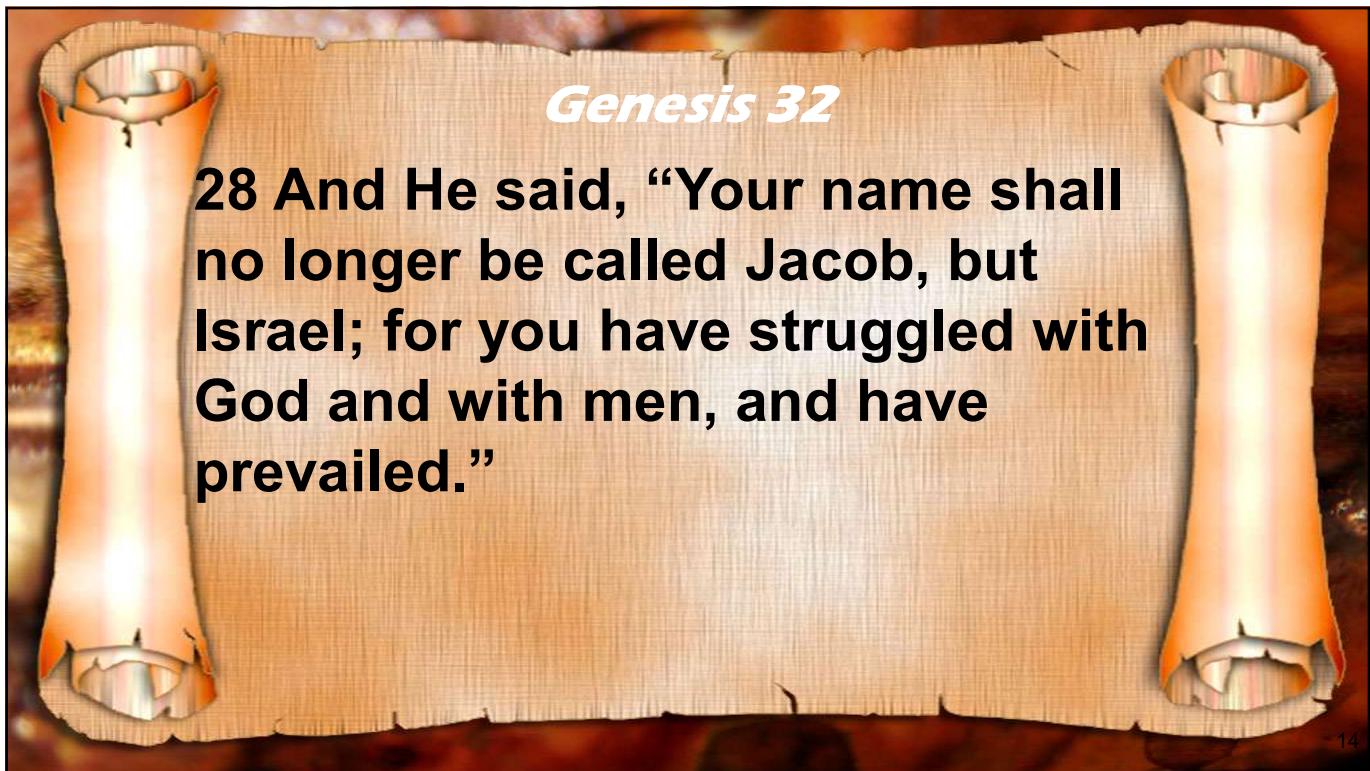
12

***Genesis 32***

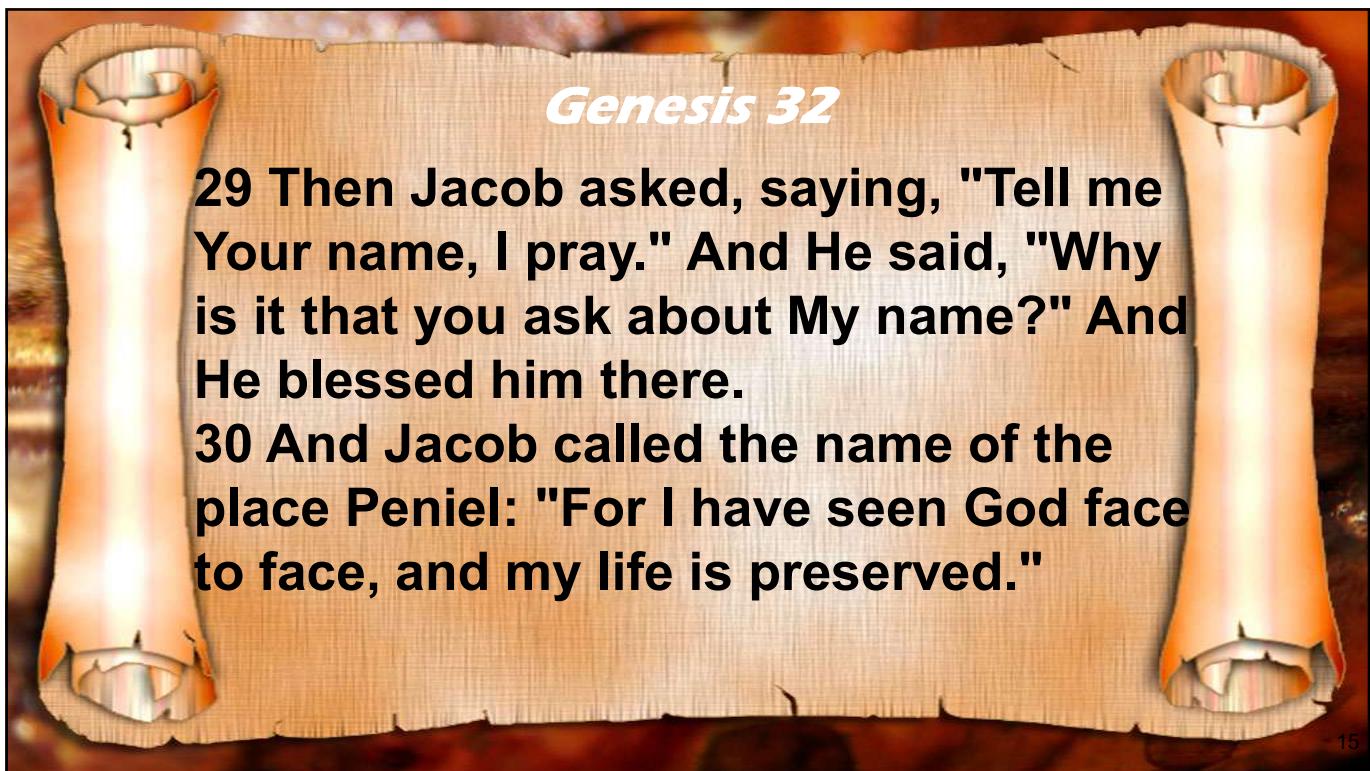
**26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"**

**27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."**

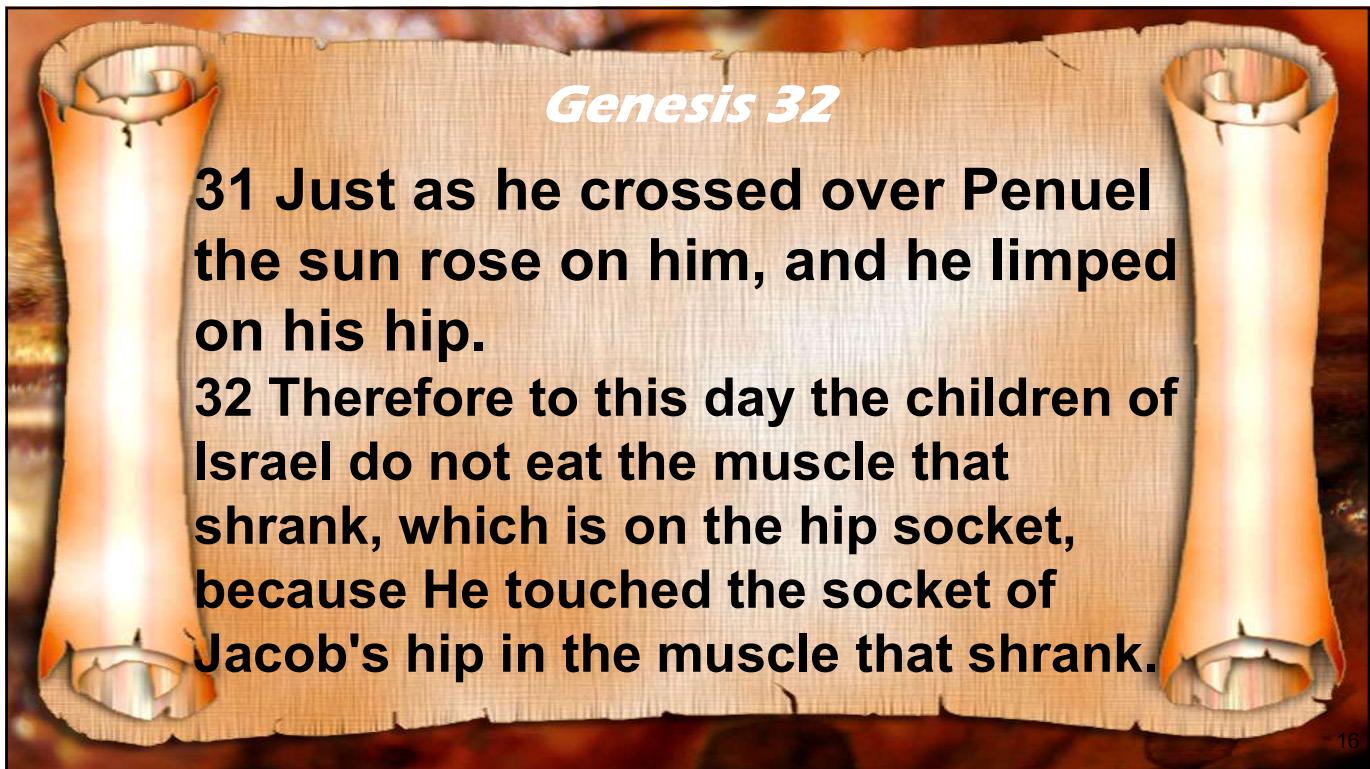
13



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

**(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!**



## *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

### *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

[www.PleasantGrove.info](http://www.PleasantGrove.info)

11

## 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.**



***Truth***

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

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



# **Letter**

## **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."