

March 27, 2011

WRESTLEMANIA B.C.

GENESIS 32

Genesis 31:55 – 32:5

- 1-2 It's an interesting encounter about which not much is said, but it gives the origin of "Two Camps"
- 3 "Jacob sent messengers"- same word as "angels"- it is an office, not a nature or essence
"To Esau his brother"- REVIEW- Why is Jacob afraid of Esau?
"Seir, the country of Edom"- Southeast of the Dead Sea, Edom is Esau's alternate name
- 4 "my lord Esau"- the word "adonai" often substituted for YHWH, English "Sir"
- 5 "that I may find grace in your eyes."

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



and Jacob wrestles the angel long into the night. **Genesis 32:24-26**

Genesis 32:6-8

- 6 The messengers are pretty bad... they don't give the demeanor of the advancing 400 men
- 7 "Jacob was greatly afraid"- apparently forgetting about God's camp of angels with him
"divided the people"- a merchant caravan tactic to ensure the survival of some goods
"into two camps"- a Hebrew pun/irony given the reason "Two camps" was given in 32:2
- 8 "the camp that is left will escape"- shrewd, but let's see how manly Jacob is in verses 22-24!

Genesis 32:9-12

JACOB FINALLY PRAYS!!!

- 9 Notice he does not yet say, "My God" but "God of my fathers"
- 10 "I am not worthy..."- Amen! May all of our prayers begin with such repentant hearts!
"steadfast love & faithfulness"- 2 Hebrew words that often appear together (Micah 7:20 for one)
- 12 *TLSB- "God's promise was the basis for Jacob's prayer."*

Genesis 32:13-21

- 13-15 Does the appeasement gift mean Jacob lacked trust in God?
- 20 "Perhaps he will accept me"- Hbr- "he will lift up my face" an idiom that works both ways

Genesis 32:22-32

- 22 "his eleven children"- apparently Dinah is not counted
- 23-24 "Jacob was left alone"- so he sends EVERYONE ahead to meet Esau, and he stays back in hiding
"and a man wrestled with him until dawn"- The motive or impetus for wrestling is not included
- 25 "he did not prevail against Jacob"- *Augustine- An angel wrestled with him, representing Christ; and while he wrestled, though the angel surpassed Jacob in strength, he still seemed to succumb to him, and Jacob to prevail. In the same sort of way the Lord Christ too succumbed to the Jews; they prevailed when they killed him. He was overcome by superior strength; precisely when he was overcome, he overcame for us...When he suffered, he shed the blood with which he redeemed us.*
- "he touched his hip socket... put out of joint"- indicates that this mystery man is more than man
- 28 "Your name... Israel"- the name translates two ways- "He strives (with) God" and "God strives"
- 29 Oddly, the wrestler refuses to tell Jacob/Israel his name

- 30 “called the name ...Peniel ‘Face of God’”- Jacob believes he has seen God’s face
“my life has been delivered”- the grace and truth he prayed for earlier comes back as assurance!
32 “to this day the SONS of Israel...” Vicar’s # 1 Pet Peeve in Old Testament translation.

Psalm 74

N: ¹O God, why do you cast us off forever?
S: Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?
N: ²Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old,
S: which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!
N: Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.
N: ³Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins;
S: the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!
N: ⁴Your foes have roared in the midst of your meeting place;
S: they set up their own signs for signs...
N: ⁹We do not see our signs;
S: there is no longer any prophet,
N: and there is none among us who knows how long.
S: ¹⁰How long, O God, is the foe to scoff?
N: Is the enemy to revile your name forever?
S: ¹¹Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand?
N: Take it from the fold of your garment and destroy them!
S: ¹²Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.
N: ¹³You divided the sea by your might;
S: you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.
N: ¹⁴You crushed the heads of Leviathan;
S: you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.
N: ¹⁵You split open springs and brooks;
S: you dried up ever-flowing streams.
N: ¹⁶Yours is the day, yours also the night;
S: you have established the heavenly lights and the sun.
N: ¹⁷You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth;
S: you have made summer and winter.
N: ¹⁸Remember this, O YHWH, how the enemy scoffs,
S: and a foolish people reviles your name.
N: ¹⁹Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts;
S: do not forget the life of your poor forever.
N: ²⁰Have regard for the covenant,
S: for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence.
N: ²¹Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame;
S: let the poor and needy praise your name.
N: ²²Arise, O God, defend your cause;
S: remember how the foolish scoff at you all the day!
N: ²³Do not forget the clamor of your foes,
S: the uproar of those who rise against you, which goes up continually!

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever Amen.**