

Wrestling for a Blessing

Do you know the comic strip character Ziggy? In one of his comic strips, Ziggy and his dog are standing at the window in their second floor apartment looking out on the busy city streets below. Ziggy says, "Well, it's you and me against the world, and I think we're gonna get creamed."

I believe that is how Jacob felt after 20 years when he was going to be reunited with his brother Esau. The last time he saw him, Esau wanted to kill Jacob and Jacob ran away from home. Are there things in your life you have been running from? Is God saying it is time to come home and confront these things? It is scary isn't it? Jacob did the first thing any one of us should do. Take a knee and pray. Jacob prayed for God's help, but he was going to have to "open the door" and face the challenge ahead of him before he could receive God's blessing.

Jacob knew God had promised blessings, and Jacob would do whatever it took to receive the blessing he needed. To Jacob this could be the last night of his life, but that's not what he wanted. He made extensive preparations. Have you done the same? I have. I have a Living Will, etc., and I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I am preparing for the night, so to speak.

It was nighttime for Jacob, literally, and God did business with Jacob that night. When Jacob was alone another man showed up and they got into a wrestling match. When you are alone, although there may not be another person there, you will likely get into a wrestling match too. You'll likely wrestle with your mind. And there will be a purpose behind this wrestling match. You will be saying, like Jacob, "I want to be blessed by You, God, and I am not going to let you go until you bless me." Does God want to bless you? Sure, but He wants to know how bad you want it.

Jacob had to wrestle for a while to get what he wanted, and today's lesson can either be just a story to you, or it can be the beginning of receiving life's greatest blessings. God will be seeking your attention. He will want you to wrestle for your blessings. He will want you to persist, even when it hurts. Why should we persist? 1. There is an enemy out there who opposes us and wants our soul. 2. Because our heavenly Father wants to bless us.

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