

## Daily Devotional, September 30, 2020

### 'Wrestling with God' (Genesis 32:26, NKJV)

*"I will not let you go unless you bless me!"* (Genesis 32:26)

Jacob was at a pivotal point in his life. He was about to meet his brother Esau after many years of estrangement. Jacob had fled his home many years prior because Esau had planned to kill him, after he had deceived Esau out of his birthright (**Genesis 27:35,41**). But Jacob had matured since then, and had become a great man of faith. He knew that to go to meet Esau that day, he needed the Lord's blessing. And Jacob was not relenting in wrestling with God until he got a blessing. That day, he received the name Israel, for he had **"struggled with God and with men"**, and prevailed (Genesis 32:28).

Do you have a major situation, meeting, test, decision, or appointment coming up? Resolve like Jacob did, not to go forward without a blessing from God. Now don't think that the Lord will bless you if you've got some sin in mind, but do know that He will bless you, even by going with you, if your heart is right toward Him, and you are doing an honorable thing. Jacob persisted for the blessing for a night, and all night prayer is good. But our weak bodies need some sleep from time to time. But that will not stop you from wrestling with God in prayer all day. The Bible says **"that men always ought to pray and not lose heart"** (Luke 18:1).

More of a direct application of our text would be this: 'Is there someone that you are estranged from that you ought be meeting up with soon?' A family member or a friend perhaps. It could be that the appointed time is coming at some event, or maybe God is sending you both to the same store at the same time. Seek God's blessing in this. He is the ultimate Reconciler. Pray that He is first consulted about that meeting. And don't you dare show up if you are not humble enough to admit the wrong you did, or to offer complete and unconditional forgiveness. Like Jesus does.