

By God's Grace – Genesis Chapter 31-33

There are two parts of this study with two concepts addressed in this study:

- 1.) **Grace** – What is it? Favor from God. When is it given? (when a person humbly seeks Him for it)
- 2.) **Persistence** (Holding fast) – Why did Jacob have persistence in his seeking God? For what is he fighting?

These two concepts were important to Jacob, and is obviously very important today, because Satan twists and desires to keep the true teaching of these concepts out of the churches today. The Word of God instructs His own: (From 2 Epistles: 1 written to a church, the other written to a leader)
I Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Also among other things:

II Timothy 1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 3:6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

II Thessalonians 2:15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

First let's talk about grace, used 170 times in the Bible, both Testaments and overwhelmingly means to find favor in someone's eyes. Ex. "Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord". (The first Mention) Both concepts are illustrated in the text.

Search text: grace
 Search scope: Genesis - Revelation
 Total matching verses: 159
 Total Match Count: 170

104 chapters contain a match (out of 1189 chapters in the search scope).

Search Result Locations by Book

| Old Testament (37 matching verses) | | New Testament (122 matching verses) | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Genesis (11) | Ecclesiastes (0) | Matthew (0) | 1 Peter (8) |
| Exodus (5) | Song of Solomon (0) | Mark (0) | 2 Peter (2) |
| Leviticus (0) | Isaiah (0) | Luke (1) | 1 John (0) |
| Numbers (1) | Jeremiah (1) | John (3) | 2 John (1) |
| Deuteronomy (0) | Lamentations (0) | Acts (10) | 3 John (0) |
| Joshua (0) | Ezekiel (0) | Romans (20) | Jude (1) |
| Judges (1) | Daniel (0) | 1 Corinthians (6) | Revelation (2) |
| Ruth (2) | Hosea (0) | 2 Corinthians (13) | |
| 1 Samuel (3) | Joel (0) | Galatians (7) | |
| 2 Samuel (2) | Amos (0) | Ephesians (12) | |
| 1 Kings (0) | Obadiah (0) | Philippians (3) | |
| 2 Kings (0) | Jonah (0) | Colossians (5) | |
| 1 Chronicles (0) | Micah (0) | 1 Thessalonians (2) | |
| 2 Chronicles (0) | Nahum (0) | 2 Thessalonians (4) | |
| Ezra (1) | Habakkuk (0) | 1 Timothy (3) | |
| Nehemiah (0) | Zephaniah (0) | 2 Timothy (4) | |
| Esther (1) | Haggai (0) | Titus (4) | |
| Job (0) | Zechariah (2) | Philemon (2) | |
| Psalms (2) | Malachi (0) | Hebrews (7) | |
| Proverbs (5) | | James (2) | |

Part One: First concept: Grace

James 4:1 From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come* they not hence, *even* of your lusts that war in your members?

James 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**

James 4:5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

James 4:6 **But he giveth more grace.** Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

James 4:9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness.

James 4:10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.**

James 4:11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of *his* brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

James 4:12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

James 4:13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

James 4:14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

James 4:15 For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

James 4:16 **But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.**

James 4:17 **Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.**

Jacob had two reasons to leave his uncle's household in Haran, and another reason to stay. Jacob knew that he and his uncle, Laban, could never have a good understanding between them. Laban was obviously worldly. **But Jacob knew that God's covenant was true** and **God was going to give his Seed the promise.** But Jacob also knew that upon leaving Haran, he would ultimately have to face his brother Esau. Esau had vowed to kill Jacob twenty years earlier ([Genesis 27:41](#))

Jacob believed God at His Word. Jacob knew that God would be with him, because God had said so. But the circumstances surrounding Jacob did not look so great. God had blessed Jacob with livestock and family until traveling was a very slow process. God had delivered Jacob from Laban's deceit, but the situation with Esau was a scary situation, but no problem if a person is walking in faith.

We all go through trials in our lives that may even seem to parallel those in Jacob's life. The book of James teaches us how to endure these trials and come out victorious. In fact, the book of James seems to me to be a commentary on the thirty-second chapter of Genesis. It teaches us that when we don't have the wisdom to continue on through a trial, we need to ask God and He gives this wisdom liberally. James also teaches us that our mindset needs to be single, not double-minded. This single mindedness is explained in the fifth chapter of James as enduring the trial with patience until the coming of the Lord. And finally, the book of James teaches us that God's purpose comes by His grace and not by his people's worthiness. **God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.**

I. Jacob hears the LORD say....

Genesis 31:1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that *was* our father's; and of *that* which *was* our father's hath he gotten all this glory.

Genesis 31:2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it *was* not toward him as before.

Genesis 31:3 And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee.

Jacob consults with Leah and Rachel

Genesis 31:4 And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field unto his flock,

Genesis 31:5 And said unto them, I see your father's countenance, that it *is* not toward me as before; but the God of my father hath been with me.

Genesis 31:6 And ye know that with all my power I have served your father.

Genesis 31:7 And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me.

Genesis 31:8 If he said thus, The speckled shall be thy wages; then all the cattle bare speckled: and if he said thus, The ringstraked shall be thy hire; then bare all the cattle ringstraked.

Genesis 31:9 Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given *them* to me.

Genesis 31:10 And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived, that I lifted up mine eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the rams which leaped upon the cattle *were* ringstraked, speckled, and grisled.

Genesis 31:11 And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, *saying*, Jacob: And I said, Here *am* I.

Genesis 31:12 And he said, Lift up now thine eyes, and see, all the rams which leap upon the cattle *are* ringstraked, speckled, and grisled: for I have seen all that Laban doeth unto thee.

Genesis 31:13 I *am* the God of Beth-el, where thou anointedst the pillar, *and* where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

Rachel and Leah's answer

Genesis 31:14 And Rachel and Leah answered and said unto him, *Is there* yet any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house?

Genesis 31:15 Are we not counted of him strangers? for he hath sold us, and hath quite devoured also our money.

Genesis 31:16 For all the riches which God hath taken from our father, that *is* ours, and our children's: now then, whatsoever God hath said unto thee, do.

Jacob takes action

Genesis 31:17 Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon camels;

Genesis 31:18 And he carried away all his cattle, and all his goods which he had gotten, the cattle of his getting, which he had gotten in Padan-aram, for to go to Isaac his father in the land of Canaan.

Genesis 31:19 And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that *were* her father's.

Genesis 31:20 And Jacob stole away unawares to Laban the Syrian, in that he told him not that he fled.

Genesis 31:21 So he fled with all that he had; and he rose up, and passed over the river, and set his face *toward* the mount Gilead.

Laban hears that Jacob left

Genesis 31:22 And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob was fled.

Genesis 31:23 And he took his brethren with him, and pursued after him seven days' journey; and they overtook him in the mount Gilead.

Laban hears the LORD say....

Genesis 31:24 And God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night, and said unto him, Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.

Laban chases after Jacob

Genesis 31:25 Then Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mount: and Laban with his brethren pitched in the mount of Gilead.

Genesis 31:26 And Laban said to Jacob, What hast thou done, that thou hast stolen away unawares to me, and carried away my daughters, as captives *taken* with the sword?

Genesis 31:27 Wherefore didst thou flee away secretly, and steal away from me; and didst not tell me, that I might have sent thee away with mirth, and with songs, with tabret, and with harp?

Genesis 31:28 And hast not suffered me to kiss my sons and my daughters? thou hast now done foolishly in *so* doing.

Genesis 31:29 It is in the power of my hand to do you hurt: but the God of your father spake unto me yesternight, saying, Take thou heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.

Genesis 31:30 And now, *though* thou wouldest needs be gone, because thou sore longedst after thy father's house, *yet* wherefore hast thou stolen my gods?

Jacob answers Laban's question with Truth and Humility

Genesis 31:31 And Jacob answered and said to Laban, Because I was afraid: for I said, Peradventure thou wouldest take by force thy daughters from me.

Genesis 31:32 With whomsoever thou findest thy gods, let him not live: before our brethren discern thou what *is* thine with me, and take *it* to thee. For Jacob knew not that Rachel had stolen them.

Laban searches all of Jacob's tents

Genesis 31:33 And Laban went into Jacob's tent, and into Leah's tent, and into the two maidservants' tents; but he found *them* not. Then went he out of Leah's tent, and entered into Rachel's tent.

Genesis 31:34 Now Rachel had taken the images, and put them in the camel's furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found *them* not.

Genesis 31:35 And she said to her father, Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before thee; for the custom of women *is* upon me. And he searched, but found not the images.

Now, Jacob is wroth with Laban

Genesis 31:36 And Jacob was wroth, and chode with Laban: and Jacob answered and said to Laban, What *is* my trespass? what *is* my sin, that thou hast so hotly pursued after me?

Genesis 31:37 Whereas thou hast searched all my stuff, what hast thou found of all thy household stuff? set *it* here before my brethren and thy brethren, that they may judge betwixt us both.

Genesis 31:38 This twenty years *have I been* with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten.

Genesis 31:39 That which was torn *of beasts* I brought not unto thee; I bare the loss of it; of my hand didst thou require it, *whether* stolen by day, or stolen by night.

Genesis 31:40 *Thus* I was; in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night; and my sleep departed from mine eyes.

Genesis 31:41 Thus have I been twenty years in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle: and thou hast changed my wages ten times.

Jacob knows that the Covenant God is in control

Genesis 31:42 Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked *thee* yesternight.

Jacob and Laban make a covenant

Genesis 31:43 And Laban answered and said unto Jacob, *These* daughters *are* my daughters, and *these* children *are* my children, and *these* cattle *are* my cattle, and all that thou seest *is* mine: and what can I do this day unto these my daughters, or unto their children which they have born?

Genesis 31:44 Now therefore come thou, let us make a covenant, I and thou; and let it be for a witness between me and thee.

The details of the covenant – Which party of the covenant truly acknowledges God?

Genesis 31:45 And Jacob took a stone, and set it up *for* a pillar.

Genesis 31:46 And Jacob said unto his brethren, Gather stones; and they took stones, and made an heap: and they did eat there upon the heap.

Genesis 31:47 And Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha: but Jacob called it Galeed.

Genesis 31:48 And Laban said, This heap *is* a witness between me and thee this day. Therefore was the name of it called Galeed;

Genesis 31:49 And **Mizpah**; for he said, The LORD **watch** between me and thee, when we are absent one from another.

Genesis 31:50 If thou shalt afflict my daughters, or if thou shalt take *other* wives beside my daughters, no man *is* with us; see, God *is* witness betwixt me and thee.

Genesis 31:51 And Laban said to Jacob, Behold this heap, and behold *this* pillar, which I have cast betwixt me and thee;

Genesis 31:52 This heap *be* witness, and *this* pillar *be* witness, that I will not pass over this heap to thee, and that thou shalt not pass over this heap and this pillar unto me, for harm.

Genesis 31:53 The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge betwixt us. And Jacob swore by the fear of his father Isaac.

Genesis 31:54 Then **Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mount**, and called his brethren to eat bread: and they did eat bread, and tarried all night in the mount.

Laban departs

Genesis 31:55 And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them: and Laban departed, and returned unto his place.

II. The Angels Meet Jacob

A. Jacob needed encouragement

1. Circumstances looked bad concerning meeting Esau
2. Esau had vowed to kill Jacob
3. Esau was likely to have a more mature army than Jacob

B. Only Jacob saw this event – Jacob said:

1. This is God's host
2. Jacob named the place *Mahanayim – Plural of camps*
 - a. Jacob's camp, and
 - b. The camp of angels also with Jacob

III. Jacob hears the news of Esau from his messengers and acts humbly

Genesis 32:1 And Jacob went on his way, and the **angels of God met him**.

Genesis 32:2 And when Jacob saw them, he said, This *is* God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

Genesis 32:3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

Genesis 32:4 And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye **speak unto my lord Esau**; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now:

Genesis 32:5 And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, **that I may find grace in thy sight**.

Genesis 32:6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he **cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him**.

Genesis 32:7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that *was* with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands;

Genesis 32:8 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape.

A. Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed about meeting Esau

B. Jacob sends out messengers to go see Esau

1. Jacob told them to tell Esau that Jacob had been at Laban's for 20 years
2. Jacob told them to call Esau Jacob's lord
 - a. Jacob wanted **Esau's favor** – (Tells us about this definition of grace)
 - b. Knowing that Esau probably believed himself to have political advantage, Jacob wanted to assure Esau that Jacob came as a servant
3. Jacob has a gift for Esau of 580 animals for Esau

C. What was the news Jacob heard: "...He cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him."

D. Jacob takes action

1. He divided the people with him and the animals into two bands
2. The thinking was that if Esau got one band the other would make it

E. Therefore Jacob did all he could do – He knew the rest depended on God

IV. Jacob's Humble Prayer

Genesis 32:9 And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:

Genesis 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

Genesis 32:11 Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, *and* the mother with the children.

Genesis 32:12 And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

A. This Reminds Me of A Verses in The Book of James:

James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

B. Jacob was facing a seemingly hopeless situation – Humbled himself before God

1. Esau had 400 men
2. If Esau meant harm, Jacob would have been defenseless
3. If Esau were to win, God's purpose would be thwarted

C. Four parts to a "Prayer for Wisdom" in a trial

1. Jacob reminded God of His Word
2. Jacob thanked God for His previous blessings and leading
3. Jacob acknowledged his own unworthiness
4. Jacob threw himself upon God for deliverance
5. This reminds me of another verse in James:

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

D. Jacob Built His Prayer on God's Word – All Prayer must be from the Word of God

1. God had made certain promises
2. Jacob was going to claim those promises and stand on them
3. Jacob was calling on God to be strong in fulfilling those promises
5. This reminds me of another verse in James:

James 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

V. Jacob's Command to His Messengers – Obviously Jacob sought Esau's favor

Genesis 32:13 And he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother;

Genesis 32:14 Two hundred she goats, and twenty he goats, two hundred ewes, and twenty rams,

Genesis 32:15 Thirty milch camels with their colts, forty kine, and ten bulls, twenty she asses, and ten foals.

Genesis 32:16 And he delivered *them* into the hand of his servants, every drove by themselves; and said unto his servants, Pass over before me, and put a space betwixt drove and drove.

Genesis 32:17 And he commanded the foremost, saying, When Esau my brother meeteth thee, and asketh thee, saying, Whose *art* thou? and whither goest thou? and whose *are* these before thee?

Genesis 32:18 Then thou shalt say, *They be* thy servant Jacob's; *it is* a present sent unto my lord Esau: and, behold, also he *is* behind us.

Genesis 32:19 And so commanded he the second, and the third, and all that followed the droves, saying, On this manner shall ye speak unto Esau, when ye find him.

Genesis 32:20 And say ye moreover, **Behold, thy servant Jacob is behind us**. For he said, I will appease him with the present that goeth before me, and afterward I will see his face; peradventure he will accept of me.

A. After prayer, Jacob decides to send Esau a gift

B. Jacob's command "Divide the 580 animals into five droves"

1. Jacob told them to keep a fair distance between the droves
2. Each shepherd was to follow his drove

C. These Were Good Will Gifts

VI. Jacob's Family and Possessions Cross the Jabbok

Genesis 32:21 So went the present over before him: and himself lodged that night in the company.

Genesis 32:22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok.

Genesis 32:23 And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.

A. Jabbok - Stream Flowing West into Jordan – 1/2 Way Between Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea

B. Jacob Wanted the Crossing the Jabbok Finished Before Meeting Esau

Part II - The 2nd Concept in this study

I. Jacob's Wrestling Match

Genesis 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled **a man** with him until the breaking of the day.

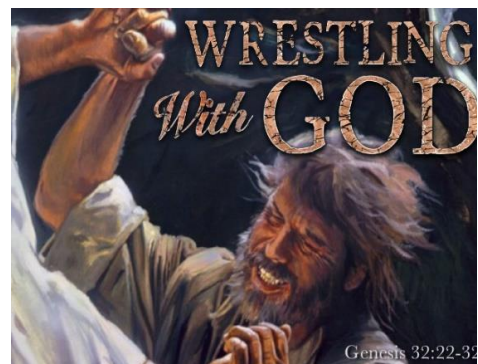
Genesis 32:25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

Genesis 32:26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, **I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.**

Genesis 32:27 And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob.

Genesis 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Genesis 32:29 And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is* it *that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.



Jacob names this wrestling place

Genesis 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for **I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.**

Genesis 32:31 And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.

Genesis 32:32 Therefore the children of Israel eat not *of* the sinew which shrank, which *is* upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

A. Jacob was actually wrestling with the Pre-Incarnate Christ

1. The angel did not prevail because Jacob kept on wrestling
2. Jacob was not stronger than God – **God wants persistent prayer from His people**

B. The Parable of the “unjust judge” explains this”

- a. **Luke 18:7** And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
 - b. **Luke 18:1** And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
4. The angel touched Jacob's thigh and it went out of joint

C. Next morning Jacob was still holding on

1. The Angel Asked To Be Let Go
2. Jacob would not let go without permanent assurance of blessing

D. Look how Hosea compares Jacob's wrestling tenacity to holding on to his brother's heel:

Hosea 12:3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:

Hosea 12:4 Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us;

Hosea 12:5 Even the LORD God of hosts; the LORD is his memorial.

E. The Angel changed Jacob's name To Israel

1. Jacob was no longer to be called the supplanter but prevailer
2. His new name – Israel – “God's Prince”
3. That name was subscribed to Jacob's descendants for 3500 years
4. Jacob limped on that thigh for a reminder of this incident

F. Jacob Names This Place – Penial – “The Face of God”

II. Jacob Encounters Esau

Genesis 33:1 And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.

Genesis 33:2 And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindermost.

Genesis 33:3 And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

Genesis 33:4 And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

Genesis 33:5 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, *Who are* those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant.

Genesis 33:6 Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves.

Genesis 33:7 And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves.

Hosea 12:3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:

A. What was Jacob's strength that he had power with God?

James 5:1 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

James 5:2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten.

James 5:3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

James 5:4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

James 5:5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

James 5:6 Ye have condemned *and* killed the just; *and* he doth not resist you.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

James 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

James 5:9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

James 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

James 5:11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

James 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

James 5:13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

James 5:15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

James 5:16 Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

James 5:17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

James 5:18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

James 5:19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

James 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

B. Peter illustrates this perfectly

I Peter 5:1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

I Peter 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

I Peter 5:3 Neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

I Peter 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

I Peter 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

I Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

I Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

I Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

I Peter 5:9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

I Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

I Peter 5:11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

I Peter 5:12 By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that **this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.**

I Peter 5:13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.

I Peter 5:14 Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

III. 2nd Concept: Why was Jacob so persistent? (Today, why should God's people Hold fast?)

A. What is it that made Jacob so persistent with the Angel? - Remember God's Word to Jacob:

Genesis 28:13 And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I *am* the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 28:15 And, behold, I *am* with thee, and will keep thee in all *places* whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done *that* which I have spoken to thee of.

B. Jacob's inheritance is found in the Abrahamic Covenant:

| Covenant with Abraham | Covenant Extensions |
|--|--|
| Promise of a National Land – (Land) Genesis 12:1-3 ; 13:14-18 | Palestinian Covenant – Eternally regather scattered Israel and, circumsise their heart (Cut out the flesh) Deuteronomy 30:3-5 ; Ezekiel 36:16-38 |
| Promise of Numerous Descendants – A Great Nation – (Seed) Genesis 12:3 ; 13:16 ; 17:1-22 | Davidic Covenant – David's Seed on the throne of Israel forever II Samuel 7:1-16 ; Jeremiah 33:19-26 ; 31:35-37 ; Exodus 3:15 |
| Promise that God will bless the world through Abraham– (World-wide Blessing through Abraham) Genesis 12:3 ; 22:1-19 | New Covenant – To Israel & Judah, No psychology, Law written in the heart, all will know God Jeremiah 31:31-40 ; Hebrews 8:1-13 ; Luke 1:26-38 ; Amos 9:11-15 |
| <p>Christ and the Gentiles – Scripture with foresight preached the Gospel to Abraham Galatians 3 Interprets the Abrahamic Covenant in the New Testament Galatians 3:6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Galatians 3:7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. Galatians 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. Galatians 3:9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. Galatians 3:29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.</p> | |

D. Today, we need to fight for the promise, just as Jacob did. (Past, Present, and Future)

A. Speaking about the Past

Hebrews 10:1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

Hebrews 10:2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

Hebrews 10:3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

Hebrews 10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Hebrews 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

Hebrews 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

Hebrews 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Hebrews 10:8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure *therein*; which are offered by the law;

Hebrews 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10:11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 10:13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

Hebrews 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

B. Speaking of the Future – (New Covenant [Jeremiah 31:31](#))

Hebrews 10:15 *Whereof* the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

Hebrews 10:16 *This is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

Hebrews 10:17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Hebrews 10:18 Now where remission of these *is, there is* no more offering for sin.

C. Speaking of the Present

Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

Hebrews 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

Hebrews 10:21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;

Hebrews 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Hebrews 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Hebrews 10:27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Hebrews 10:28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 10:30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

Hebrews 10:31 *It is* a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Hebrews 10:32 But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;

Hebrews 10:33 Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.

Hebrews 10:34 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

Hebrews 10:35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

Hebrews 10:36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Hebrews 10:37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.