

FAITH of our FATHERS

JACOB: CLINGING TO GOD (Genesis 25, 27, 29, 32)

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GENESIS 25

21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.

22 But the children struggled together within her

26 Afterward his brother came forth with his hand holding on to Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob

GENESIS 27

18 Then he [Jacob] came to his father and said, "My father." And he said, "Here I am. Who are you, my son?"

19 Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn; I have done as you told me. Get up, please, sit and eat of my game, that you may bless me."

23 He [blind Isaac] did not recognize him [Jacob], because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him.

35 And he said, "Your brother came deceitfully and has taken away your blessing."

41 So Esau bore a grudge against Jacob ..., "The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob."

43 [Rebekah:] "Now therefore, my son, obey my voice, and arise, flee to Haran, to my brother Laban!

44 Stay with him a few days, until your brother's fury subsides,

45 ... Then I will send and get you from there."

GENESIS 29

23 Now in the evening he [Laban] took his daughter Leah, and brought her to him; and Jacob went in to her. ...

25 So it came about in the morning that, behold, it was Leah! And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?"

GENESIS 32

24 Then Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

25 When he saw that he had not prevailed against him, he touched the socket of his thigh; so the socket of Jacob's thigh was dislocated while he wrestled with him.

26 ... he [Jacob] said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

28 He [God] said, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel; for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed."

29 Then Jacob asked him and said, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And he blessed [Jacob] there.

30 ... he said, "I have seen God face to face"

31 Now the sun rose upon him just as he crossed over Peniel, and he was limping on his thigh.

32 Therefore, to this day the sons of Israel do not eat the sinew of the hip which is on the socket of the thigh, because he touched the socket of Jacob's thigh in the sinew of the hip.

1. The CHASING

2. The CRASHING

3. The CLINGING