

“Striving with Men and with God”

Genesis 32

Big Idea: We must prevail not only with men but with God.

I. The Account in This Text

- a. God sends his messengers to Jacob. (verses 1–2)
- b. Jacob sends his messengers to Esau. (verses 3–8)
- c. Jacob calls on God for deliverance from Esau. (verses 9–12)
- d. Jacob sends gifts ahead to gain Esau’s favor. (verses 13–21)
- e. Jacob wrestles with God to gain his favor. (verses 22–32)

Hosea 12:2–6

II. The Applications of This Text

- a. Past guilt is often our most formidable foe.

Psalm 25; 103:8–12

- b. Behind our visible conflicts lie the invisible conflicts of the heavenly host.

Ephesians 2:1–3; John 8:44; Ephesians 6:11–13; Psalm 91:11–16; Hebrews 1:13–14; 2 Kings 6:15–17; Psalm 34:1–7; Joshua 5:13–15

- c. God must first smite us in order to bless us.

Judges 7:2–7; 2 Corinthians 12:7–10; Philippians 3:3–11; Luke 18:9–14; Isaiah 57:15; Deuteronomy 32:39

- d. Humble persistence obtains God’s blessing.

Luke 18:1–8