

The True and Greater Israel

Genesis 32:22-31; Luke 22:41-44; Mark 15:33-34

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Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

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Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ When the Man saw that He did not prevail against Jacob, He touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with Him. ²⁶ Then He said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me." ²⁷ And He said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me Your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask My name?" And there He blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Luke 22:41-44 and Mark 15:33-34

⁴¹ And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done." ⁴³ And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

³³ And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴ And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Table Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jacob need a wrestling match with God? Why do we?
2. What keeps us from being alone with God? What motivates us to get alone with God? (Gen. 32:24)
3. What does Genesis 32:22-31 reveal about how God relates to us in our struggles?
4. How can we bring greater intensity to our relationship with God? (Gen. 32:26)
5. How is Jesus the True and Greater Israel?
6. What does it mean for God to give us a new name and a new walk? (Gen. 32:28, 31)