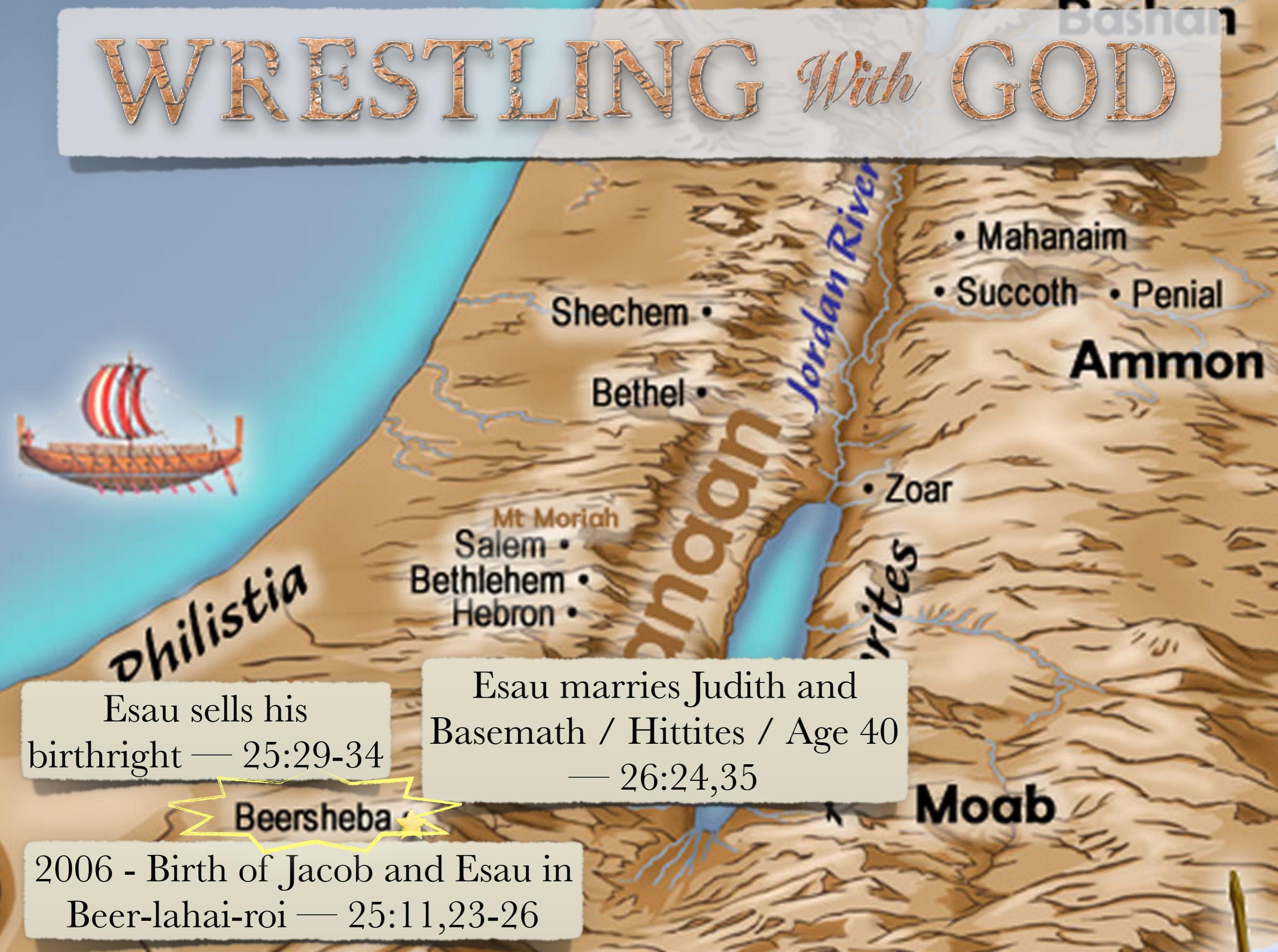




WRESTLING
With **GOOD**

Genesis 32:22-32

WRESTLING *With* GOD



Esau sells his
birthright — 25:29-34

Esau marries Judith and
Basemath / Hittites / Age 40
— 26:24,35

Beersheba

2006 - Birth of Jacob and Esau in
Beer-lahai-roi — 25:11,23-26

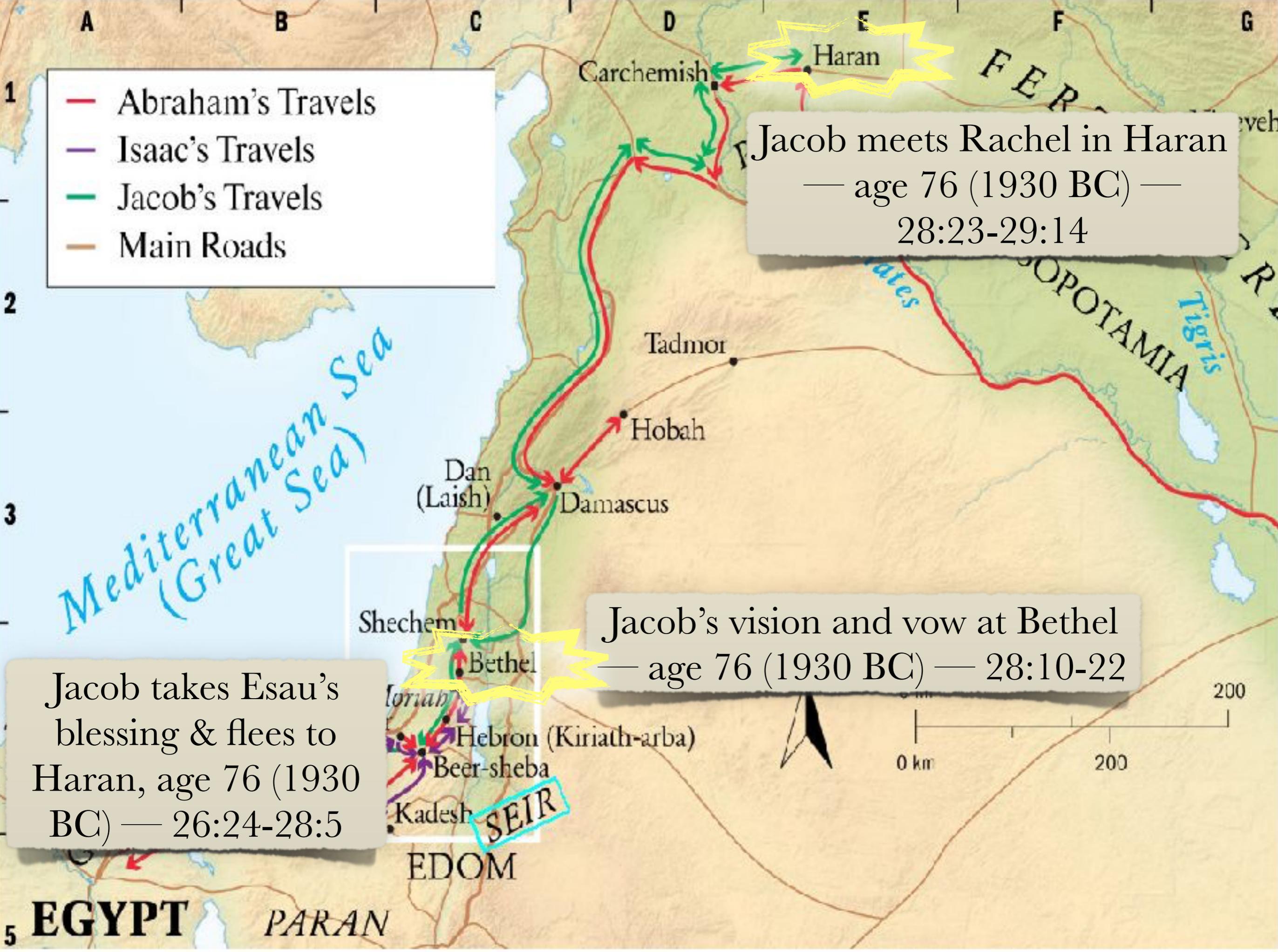
- Abraham's Travels
- Isaac's Travels
- Jacob's Travels
- Main Roads

Jacob meets Rachel in Haran
 — age 76 (1930 BC) —
 28:23-29:14

Jacob's vision and vow at Bethel
 — age 76 (1930 BC) — 28:10-22

Jacob takes Esau's blessing & flees to Haran, age 76 (1930 BC) — 26:24-28:5

SEIR



- Abraham's Travels
- Isaac's Travels
- Jacob's Travels
- Main Roads

Laban pursues and after 7 days overtakes Jacob in the mts of Gilead — 31:22-42

Laban & Jacob enter a covenant — 31:43-55

- ★ Jacob serves Laban 7 years to marry Rachel - but is given Leah instead - then agrees to work for another 7 years for Rachel, age 83 — 29:15-30
- ★ Birth of Judah, Jacob's first son by Leah, age 88 — 29:35
- ★ Birth of Joseph — 30:23
- ★ Jacob is blessed by God and is told to return to Canaan (1910 BC) — 30:37-31:16
- ★ Leaves Haran, age 96 (1910 BC) — 31:17-20



WRESTLING *With* GOD

Genesis 32 Is the Pivotal Point In Jacob's Life.

- ★ **Met by angels** — “*This is God's camp.*” / He called the name of that place Mahanaim. — 32:1,2
- ★ **Sends messengers to Esau** — 32:3-5
- ★ **Esau is coming with 400 men / Jacob is afraid** — 32:6-8
- ★ **Jacob PRAYS** — 32:9-12
- ★ **Jacob prepares a gift for Esau and sends it on ahead** — 32:13-21
- ★ **Sends wives & children across the Jabbok & remains alone** — 32:22-24



GENESIS 32:22-32 (NKJV)

²² And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. ²³

He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had.

²⁴ Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

WRESTLING *With* GOD

The Battle / Jacob Wrestles



- ★ **Jacob desires to be alone** — But a strange man shows up and wrestles Jacob till daybreak. — 32:24
- ★ **Jacob held his own** until the strange man struck him in the hip injuring him — 32:25
- ★ **Jacob demands a blessing** — as day began to break, the man said “*let me go,*” but Jacob refused unless He blessed him — 32:26

GENESIS 32:22-32 (NKJV)

²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. ²⁶ And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" ²⁷ So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." ²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Jacob Faces Himself



- ★ **What is your name?** — Was the Lord really asking for information? — 32:27
- ★ **Jacob** — “*supplanter, deceiver, schemer.*” — Just as many Biblical names, it accurately represented the nature of the man who wore it — 25:26, 29-34; 27:30; 28:20
- ★ **Name changed to Israel** (*Isra-El*) — “*prince with God / prevailed with God*” — *Biological father of the nation.*

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Jacob Faces Himself



- ★ **How could it be said that Jacob had “struggled with God and prevailed?”** — *The wrestling match? His schemes? His physical strength?*
- ★ *Jacob’s physical strength only took him so far — 32:25; 31:4-13; 32:10*
- ★ *Jacob had accomplished nothing that would or could alter God’s plan & purpose - 25:23-26; Gen 35:9-12*
- ★ *Jacob’s greatest strength was his refusal to quit - 32:26; 29:15-20*

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Jacob Faces Himself



Hosea 12:3–5 (NKJV)

³ He took his brother by the heel in the womb, And in his strength he struggled with God. ⁴ Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him. He found Him *in* Bethel, And there He spoke to us—
⁵ That is, the Lord God of hosts. The Lord *is* His memorable name.

cf. Gen 32:22-29; 35:9-12

GENESIS 32:22-32 (NKJV)

²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, “Tell *me* Your name, I pray.” And He said, “Why *is it that* you ask about My name?” And He blessed him there. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: “For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.” ³¹ Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which *is* on the hip socket, because He touched the socket of Jacob’s hip in the muscle that shrank.

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Jacob Faces His Need



- ★ **Jacob had previously made a deal with God** - *“You bless me and I will serve you”* — Gen 28:20-22
- ★ **But now Jacob realizes all he has, including his life, is dependent on God** — 32:9-12; 26
- ★ *God will teach us this same lesson if we let Him — but usually the curriculum or method will not be what we expect or like!* — Heb 12:7-11; 1 Pet 5:8-11;
- ★ *The sooner we learn this truth the better!*

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Will We Fully Surrender Our Will To God?



★ **Jacob recognized His inadequacies and came to realize his NEED to place his dependence wholly upon God.**
(Mat. 16:24,25; 1 Pet 5:5-9)

★ *If we commit ourselves to God's will, if we place our trust in His strength, and yield our will to His, who can be against us? — Rom 8:28, 31; Phili 4:13*

★ *We too must persevere — Acts 11:23; 14:12; Col. 1:23; Phili 2:12*

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Will We Fully Surrender Our Will To God?



**Our warfare is spiritual,
and we CANNOT be
victorious by carnal
means!** (Eph 6:10-18; 2 Cor 10:4-6)

**We MUST TRULY humble
ourselves before God
before we can truly
overcome our struggles! —**
(James 4:6-10)

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Will We Fully Surrender Our Will To God?



- ★ **The struggle with Self-indulgence** (1 Jn 2:15-17)
- ★ **The struggle with Self-sufficiency** (Phili 2:12,13)
- ★ **The struggle with Self-preservation** (Lk 12:20, 21; Mt 16:24-26)

WRESTLING *With* GOD

Will We Fully Surrender Our Will To God?



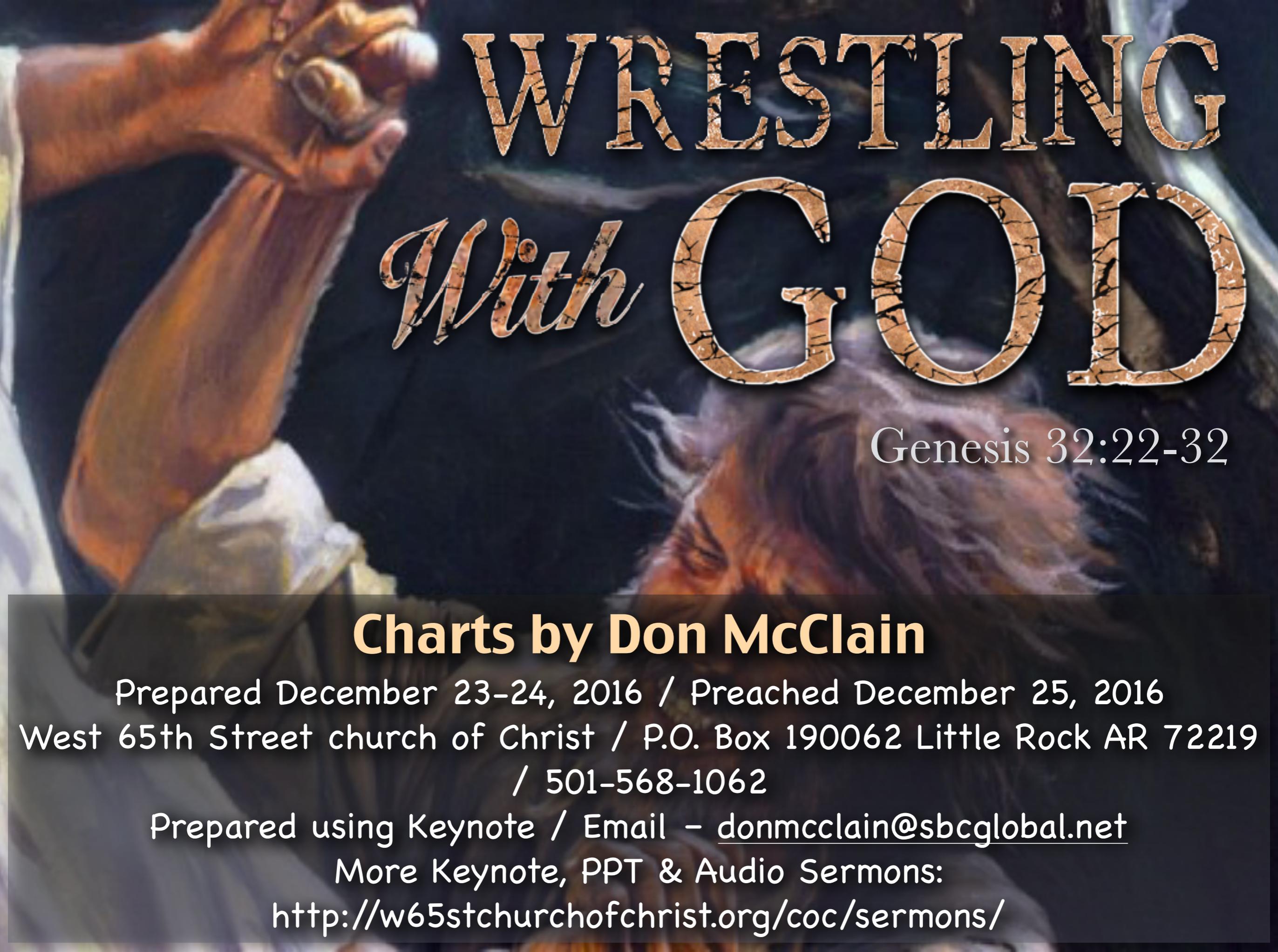
- ★ **Obeying the gospel -**
Acts 2:38
- ★ **Defeating sin in our lives -** Jam 4:6-10; 1 Cor 10:13
- ★ **Facing hardships -** Phili 4:7-13; 2 Cor 12:7-10
- ★ **Overcoming obstacles -**
Heb 12:1-3; Rom 8:21



WRESTLING
With **GOOD**

Genesis 32:22-32

If we turn to God & hold on to Him -
our struggles will turn into blessings!



WRESTLING *With* **GOOD**

Genesis 32:22-32

Charts by Don McClain

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HOSEA 12:2-6 (NKJV)

² “The Lord also *brings* a charge against Judah,
And will punish Jacob according to his ways;
According to his deeds He will recompense
him. ³ He took his brother by the heel in the
womb, And in his strength he struggled with
God. ⁴ Yes, he struggled with the Angel and
prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him.
He found Him *in* Bethel, And there He spoke to
us— ⁵ That is, the Lord God of hosts. The Lord *is*
His memorable name. ⁶ So you, by *the help of*
your God, return; Observe mercy and justice,
And wait on your God continually.

A woman is seen from the side, carrying a baby in a carrier. They are in a grassy field with trees in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow and lens flare effects. The text is overlaid on the image.

I WILL
HANG ON

UNTIL HE MAKES THIS BATTLE A BLESSING

Sonja Corbett
Bible study evangelista