

## United in Messiah

Dear Saints,

*2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.*

Too many times, we forget the promises and forge ahead in the flesh to obtain what is already ours in Yeshua. This was where Jacob missed it. Instead of waiting patiently on the Lord, he allowed fear to enter in, which wrought, as it always does, unbelief and its corresponding movement away from God. Jacob had to leave the land promised to Abraham and his descendants in poverty. The man who would become the father of the twelve tribes of Israel, left in shame and fear to become a servant in his uncle's house, only to be deceived, mistreated and cheated for twenty years. However, what was written many years later concerning the last-days house of Israel, was equally true of Jacob himself:

*Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.*

God had not changed His mind about Jacob, even though Jacob had made choices, that seem to move him away from the call God had placed upon him. Notice, instead, that even as he was fleeing the land of promise in fear, **God, lovingly moved to reveal himself to him and promised to bring Him back so that He could complete all that He had promised.** It was at this time that Jacob began the journey of repentance, turning from the ways of the flesh unto the ways of God. As we saw in last week's exhortation, God used all of the tests in Jacob's life to bring about the manifestation of the potential that He had placed within him. Through the years of service to Laban, Jacob was learning and growing, and the blessing of the Lord began to be seen in his life and family, even bringing prosperity to Laban because of him.

As YHWH had promised in Genesis 28:15, the time for Jacob to make *aliyah*, (the term used to describe ascending to the Land of Israel) had come. In the Torah portion found in **Genesis 32:4—36:43**, Jacob had heard God's instruction to him (Genesis 31:3), and he took his family, acquired possessions, and all the great multitude he had been blessed with and began his **ascent to restoration** of all that had been forfeited by him years earlier, but there was still a matter that had to be dealt with. He had wronged Esau to procure the blessing, and all the blessings that he had gained had not brought him any closer to reconciliation with his brother.

*Matthew 5:23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;*

*Matthew 5:24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.*

In fact, Esau had stated that he would kill Jacob for what he had done. This was a matter which constituted one of the greatest tests that Jacob had ever faced as he re-entered the promised land and brought about the following incident after Jacob had sent a lavish gift to Esau to demonstrate his repentance and love toward him, still uncertain and fearful as to

how his brother might feel toward him, he had to first deal with the fear that had caused him to compromise at the onset, and he could not do it alone.

*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.*

Now you can see by the following scripture that the “man” wrestling with Jacob is “Even the LORD. The God of hosts; **YHWH is His name.**”

*Hosea 12:3 In the womb he took his brother by the heel, And in his maturity he contended with God.*

*Hosea 12:4 Yes, he wrestled with the angel and prevailed; He wept and sought His favor. He found Him at Bethel, And there He spoke with us,*

*Hosea 12:5 **Even the LORD, the God of hosts; The LORD is His name.***

This is certainly a pre-incarnate appearance of Yeshua in the form of a man wrestling with Jacob, but I want you to consider that **Yeshua was not contending against Jacob, but rather joining with him against a common enemy** which had plagued Jacob from the beginning. **Can you see the Lord helping Jacob gain a victory over spiritual wickedness, overcoming fear, the flesh and the natural mind?**

*2 Corinthians 20:4 CJB **We demolish arguments and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of God. We take every thought captive and make it obey the Messiah.***

Although Jacob, in his own power, had been incapable of overcoming the enemy that had brought strife, confusion and fear into his life, united with the Messiah, he could do all things. To remind him of fleshly frailty and the mighty power of God, a simple touch by Yeshua left his hip dislocated so that he would trust only in God, not in his own power. It is only as we trust and unite ourselves with the Lord that we become one with Him, and along with Jacob who became Israel, a prince with God, **we are grafted into this same princely place of power, eternally established through the blood of Yeshua, the Messiah.**

*John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

*2 Corinthians 12:10 NASB **Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.***

Don't allow the bad decisions that you have made in life define your future. God has made a way through forgiveness by the blood of Yeshua for all that has been forfeited to be restored. He has promised you eternal life, victory, and joy in the ministry you are called to by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Don't give up on yourself. The LORD certainly hasn't,** and He will wrestle with you against all that is meant to hinder you. **He will always take hold together with us against all the power of the enemy when we persist to hold on to Him, when we prevail with Him, and when we keep our trust firmly set on all that He has promised in His Word.**

*Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

Victorious in Messiah,  
Terry