

Let the Sun Shine Again

Genesis 32:22-32

I. The Dark Solitude. (Gen. 32:22-24a)

- A. He found himself alone in the night.
- B. This is typical of where a child of God may find themselves.
- C. It was a conflict that found him at this place.
 - 1. It was a conflict with a brother.
 - 2. It was a gut-wrenching conflict that he bore a part in.

II. The Desperate Struggle. (Gen. 32:24-26)

- A. God will meet us in our hour of loneliness and crisis to reveal Himself to us.
- B. Jacob wrestled with the Lord that night and.
- C. Jacob refused to waste the Struggle.
 - 1. He persisted through the struggle.
 - 2. He didn't want to have gone through it and emerge none the better for it, so he pled for the Lord to bless him.
- D. He would bear the physical effect for the balance of his life, and he would never be the same again.

III. The Deceitful Shame. (Gen. 32:25-28)

- A. The Lord knew the heart of Jacob.
 - 1. He needed Jacob to see his own heart apart from God
- B. The Lord knew Jacob's name but asked him to tell him.
 - 1. It was so the Jacob would confess the deceitfulness of his own heart.
 - 2. The Lord will bring us face to face with our inadequacy so that we may have the blessing of his sufficiency in our lives.
- C. The Lord touched Jacob in the hollow of his thigh.

IV. The Dawn of Sunshine. (Gen. 32:28-32)

- A. The place was called Peniel (face of God) for it was there that he met God face to face. (the place of crisis).
- B. As he crossed over **the sun rose upon him**.
 - 1. It was only after He saw the death of flesh
 - 2. It was only after he realized who he was apart from almighty God.
 - 3. It was only after he persisted through the struggle while holding on to God.