



## Genesis 32 - Questions

Jacob knew about the One, True God. He had learned all about Him from his family and his growing up years. He even worshipped the One, True God. He had met with the One, True God before. (Genesis 28:10-22 - Jacob's ladder). But before this wrestling match in Chapter 32, and this very dark, frightening night, had Jacob actually known the One, True God? Had he actually ever committed his life to the One, True God?

1. :1&2 What do you think it means when it says: "the angels of God met him."?

We've seen before in Genesis that sometimes the Bible uses the term "Angel of the Lord", or "Angels of God", and we realize it's not talking about just "angels". Sometimes it's talking about "heavenly beings", which sometimes actually means God Himself.

Look up the following passages about "angels of God" or "angels of the Lord" and see if you can tell when it is referring to "angels", and when it is referring the Lord Himself:

(hint: sometimes your Bible will help you with this - check to see if "angel" is capitalized - if it is, then the passage is referring to God Himself.)

- Genesis 22:3-12
- Numbers 22:22-35
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 6:8-17
- Psalm 34:7
- Hebrews 1:14

2. :2 The word "Mahanaim" means: "Double camp". Why did Jacob name it this?
3. :3-5 Jacob is on his way to reunite with his father, his mother in the land of Canaan, and his brother Esau in the land of Edom. Why is Jacob sending word and animals on ahead before he gets there?
4. :6-8 What is Jacob's reaction to hearing that Esau was coming to meet him?

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5. :9 As Jacob begins his prayer to the LORD, what does he first remind the LORD of?
6. :10 What is the next thing Jacob says as he prays?
7. :11-12 What, now, does he ask for? And how does he end this prayer?
8. Jacob's prayer to the LORD, in verses :9-12, is a good model for us when we have urgent requests of the LORD. What were the simple parts of his prayer?
  - a. :9 -
  - b. :10 -
  - c. :11-12 -
  - d. :12 -
9. :13-23 What does Jacob do now that he as finished praying?
10. Describe how you think Jacob feels this night as he waits to see what will happen when Esau arrives.
11. :24-32 In this famous passage of scripture we see Jacob wrestling with someone. Who is that someone? Why are they wrestling?
12. If this is the LORD, couldn't He have easily stopped the wrestling match any time He wanted to? Why didn't He?
13. What is the lesson for us here? Does starting a relationship with God sometimes feel like "wrestling" with God?
14. What kind of a change do you think we will see in Jacob from this point on?