

The Torah Project

Genesis 32b-33a

**FEAR and STRESS:
The Birth Pains of our True Self**

DISCERNING THE REAL ENEMY

- Who created the darkness?
- Who created Jacob?
- Who created the situation?
- Who was the “wrestler”?
- Who created Jacob’s limp?

God!

- Who created the thoughts, worries, fears, doubts, opinions, anxieties, stress, etc.?

Genesis 28:13-15, 20-22

- **Adonai** said, “I will be with you,”
 - **Jacob** said, “IF Elohim will be with me...”
- **Adonai** said, “I will protect you wherever you go,”
 - **Jacob** said, “IF He will protect me on this journey...”
- **Adonai** said, “I will return you to this land,”
 - **Jacob** said, “IF I return in peace to my father’s house...”

Genesis 32:9-10 [10-11]

Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Adonai, who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your relatives, and I will prosper you,’ I am unworthy of all the lovingkindness and of all the faithfulness which You have shown to Your servant; for with my staff *only* I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two companies...”

“The life of Ya’akov - and the life of every Jew - is a process of continually growing into Yisrael.”

∞ R' Mantis Weinberg

Hosea 12:3

In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his maturity he contended with God.

Oops! Miscount here?

~~77 (stressed)
(84x in Tanach)
84 = 4 x 26~~

"Jabbok"

יבק

100 + 2 + 10 = 112 = 26 + 86

26 = יהוה-י + אלהים = 86
("Adonai") (Elohim)

1 + 400

= את
401

→ "Yeshua"

לבן (Laban) אדום (Edom)

אל

El = "God"

Mark 14:3

While He was in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining *at the table*, there came a woman with an alabaster box of very costly perfume of pure nard; *and* she broke the box and poured it over His head.



Three Characteristics of Unbrokenness

1 – Remaining a Spiritual Baby (1 Cor. 3:1-3)

And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Messiah. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still fleshly...

*“However much he may love the Lord or love the truth, this new believer still walks in the realm of **feelings** and **thoughts**, not yet having been tested and refined by fire.”*

2 – Unfit to Absorb Spiritual Teaching (1 Cor. ^{3:2}~~1:5~~)

I fed you with milk, not solid food; for you were not ready.

“The Corinthians grossly prided themselves on their knowledge and wisdom. Of all the churches in that period, that at Corinth was probably the most informed one. Paul early in his letter thanked God for their rich knowledge. Should Paul deliver spiritual sermons to them they could understand every word; however, all their understandings were in the mind... Increased spiritual teaching will only strengthen his carnality and serve to deceive him into conceiving himself as spiritual. For does he not say to himself ‘How else could I possibly know so many spiritual things unless I were spiritual?’

3 – Jealousy and Strife is Present (1 Cor. 3:3)

... For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

“The sin of jealousy and strife is eminent proof of carnality. Dissensions were rife in the church at Corinth, as is confirmed by such declarations as 'I belong to Paul', 'I belong to Apollos,' (1:12). However sweet the word may sound, any sectarian boasting is but the babbling of a baby. The divisions in the church are due to no other cause than to lack of love and walking after the flesh. Such an individual, supposedly contending for the truth, is simply camouflaging the real person.”

Romans 7:22

For I delight in the Torah of God, in my inner man.

Ephesians 3:16

that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man.

2 Corinthians 4:16

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is wasting away, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The mortal enemy of godly discipleship is the independent spirit. The more one withdraws from relationships of accountability, the more lawless he becomes. The more one asserts control over his own life, the more he loses it...For the enemy to have his victory, he does not need our explicit worship or allegiance. Enticing us to imprison ourselves so that we have no real connection to man or God is enough. Alone, we do not serve Adonai – we serve ourselves, and death is our master.

☞ Kevin Geoffrey

A Prayer

Adonai, for the future of the Kingdom, for the future of the Gospel, for Your way, and also for my own life, I offer myself without condition, without reservation, into Your hands. Lord, I delight to offer myself unto You and am willing to let You have Your full way through me.