

## GENESIS –Lesson 56

Learn: The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. Psalm 34:7

But to which of the angels said he at ant time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? Hebrews 1:13, 14

Read: Genesis 32:1-32

1. Who was traveling along with Jacob and his family? v 1
2. Use the following scriptures to document God’s care for His people in the same way that He cared for Jacob.  
II Kings 6:15-17

Daniel 6:20-22

II Chronicles 32:7-8; 20-22

3. Was the care of God’s people by His angels, as seen in the above passages, just for the times of the Old Testament? Explain. Psalm 34:7; Hebrews 1:14
4. In this situation ( verse 2), Jacob saw the angels and knew who they were. Is that always the case? II Kings 6:15; Hebrews 13:2
5. When Jacob saw God’s host, what did he call the name of the place?

We see that God’s people often marked their experiences with God with a particular name. This helped them remember God’s goodness to them. The name ‘Mahanaim’ means “Two Hosts.” By this act Jacob was testifying that he was being guarded not only by his own small host, but also by God’s infinitely more numerous and powerful host.

6. Jacob remembered the threats of his brother Esau toward him. What words did Jacob use in his message to Esau to indicate that he did not want to rule over his brother?  
vv 3-5
7. Esau had already heard that Jacob was coming, and had started out to meet Jacob with a small army. What did this news bring to Jacob's heart? v 7
8. What two things did Jacob do to prepare for the feared confrontation? vv 7-9
9. How does Jacob's action in this case give us practical help in dealing with the difficulties in our own lives?

In many respects, Jacob's prayer is a fine pattern for believers in troublous circumstances, when after doing all they know how to do, and trying as well as they know to follow the Lord's guidance, they are still confronted with insurmountable problems. First, Jacob "reminded" God of his promises. Second, Jacob thanked God for His previous blessings and leading. Jacob acknowledged his own unworthiness. Finally, Jacob thrust himself upon God for deliverance.

10. What two names did Jacob use for God as he prayed? v 9
11. Though Jacob "reminded" God of His promises, what was Jacob's attitude toward God as he prayed? v 10
12. As Jacob prepared the gift for his brother Esau, and gave instructions to his servants, can you see some of the wise things that Jacob did in order to insure his brother Esau that his intentions toward him were good? vv 13-19
13. The gift that Jacob sent to Esau of 580 animals was very large. What does this show us as to how much God had blessed Jacob?
14. Once the herds were sent on their way, Jacob and those remaining settled for the

night on the north side of the river Jabbok. But during the night Jacob got up. What did he do? vv 21-23

15. Once all these preparations were complete, Jacob was on the north side of the river by himself. What happened while he was there? vv 24-26

16. Use Hosea 12:3-5 to explain what kind of “wrestling” that Jacob was doing?

17. According to the passage in Hosea and vv 24-30, who was Jacob “wrestling” with?

18. In verse 25 it says, “that when he (the man) saw that he prevailed not( did not overcome) against him(Jacob).” If the “man” was the pre-incarnate Christ, what does this mean? For truly, Christ can always defeat a mere man. See Luke 18:1-5 as well as verse 26 to help answer the question.

19. What does this account teach us concerning bringing our requests to the Lord?

20. God allowed Jacob to prevail in wrestling with him, but what did God do to Jacob in order to remind him always, that the Lord was not weaker than him in this battle, but graciously gave Jacob his request? v 25

21. What did God ask Jacob before giving him the desired blessing? v 27

22. Jacob meant “Supplanter”, God gave Jacob a new name. What was the new name?  
v 28

What did that new name mean?

NOTE: The name Israel is God's permanent testimony to the character and power of Jacob. Many have given Jacob a different character, but we do well to accept God's testimony rather than man's!

23. What was the Lord's response when Jacob asked Him His name? v 29

24. Jacob says in verse 30 that he saw God and yet lived. What does Exodus 33:20 tell us?

25. Yet, on certain occasions men did see God and live to tell of it. How was this possible?

John 1:1, 14, 18

John 14:8,9

26. What name did Jacob give that place and what did it mean? v 30