THE GOD OF ISRAEL

GENESIS 32:1-35:29

KEY VERSE 32:28

\*\* GOD WRESTLES WITH JACOB AT JABBOK RIVER (32:1-31)

1. Skim through 32:1-23. On his way, what did Jacob see (32:1)? How did he respond to the sight (32:2)? What problem did he have? What measures did Jacob take to soothe his inner fear and distress (32:3-21)? What shows that these measures did not solve his inner problem (32:22,23)?
2. Read verses 24 and 25. Describe the wrestling match at night (24,25). What does this show about Jacob's personality? Why did God have to come in man's form and have a wrestling match with him?
3. Read verses 26 through 28. After match, what did he beg God to do (26b)? How did God bless him (27,28)?
4. What is the significance of his name change? Why did Jacob ask God's name? Why did Jacob call that place "Peniel"? What happened to Jacob after he was changed into Israel (31)?
5. Skim through 33:1-11 and describe Israel's meeting with Esau. Why did Jacob say that seeing Esau's face was like "seeing the face of God"?

\*\* JACOB SETTLES AT SUCCOTH (33:12-34:31)

1. Read 33:12-20. Where did Jacob decide to settle down? How did he establish himself there (17-20)? Why? What similar things do you find among people who solved their urgent life problems in Christ?
2. Skim through 34:1-31. What happened to Jacob’s daughter? How did Jacob deal with this problem? But why did he have to leave that place? What do you learn about our life as people belonging to God? (Jn 15:5)

\*\* JACOB RETURNS TO BETHEL (35:1-28)

1. Read 1 through 5. What did God tell Jacob to do? What preparations did Jacob and his family make before leaving for Bethel? Why did no one pursue him, even though he had made many enemies in that land (2,4,5)?
2. Read verses 6 and 7. What did Jacob do when he arrived at Bethel? What does this show about Jacob's faith?
3. Read verses 9-15. How did God again bless Jacob? How did Jacob respond to God’s blessings (14,15)?
4. What were the human joys and sorrows which Jacob experienced in this chapter (8,16-29; 49:3,4)? Name Jacob's 12 sons.

\*\* JACOB'S LATER LIFE

1. Read 47:7-10 and describe Jacob's meeting with Pharaoh. What does this tell us about Jacob's faith and life? Read 48:15. (Jacob's blessing on Joseph) What light does this shed on Jacob's life?
2. Read 46:1-4. Why did God send Jacob to Egypt? Why did Jacob want to be buried in Canaan? (Heb 11:9,10) Skim through 49:1-50. What do you find Jacob as Israel?