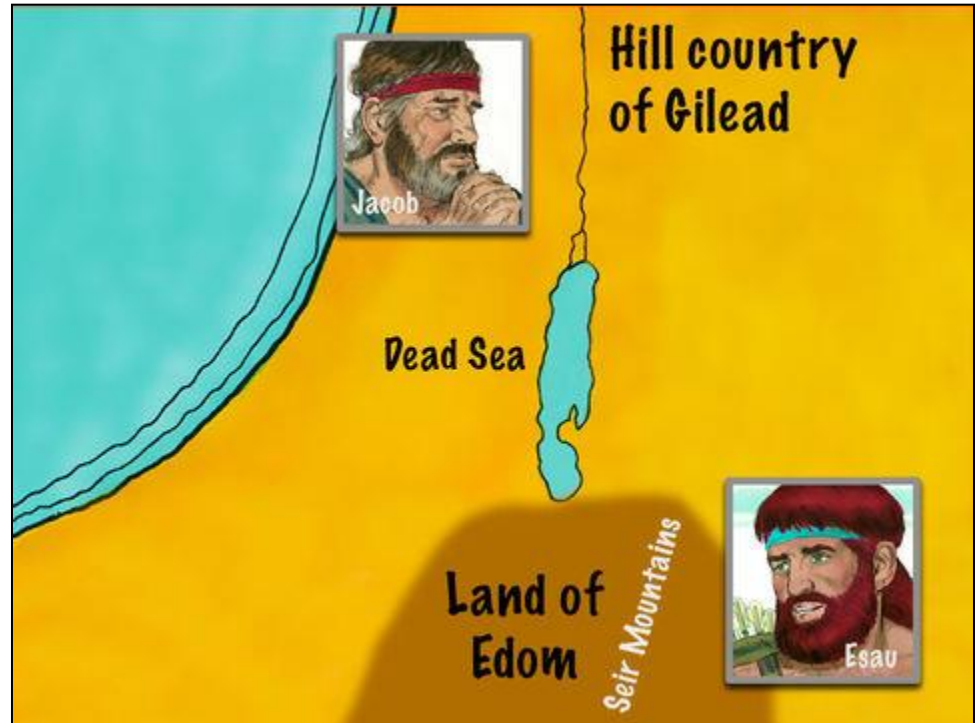
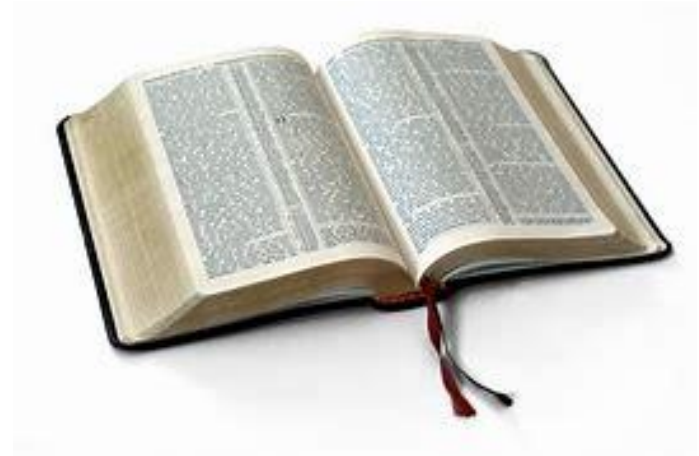
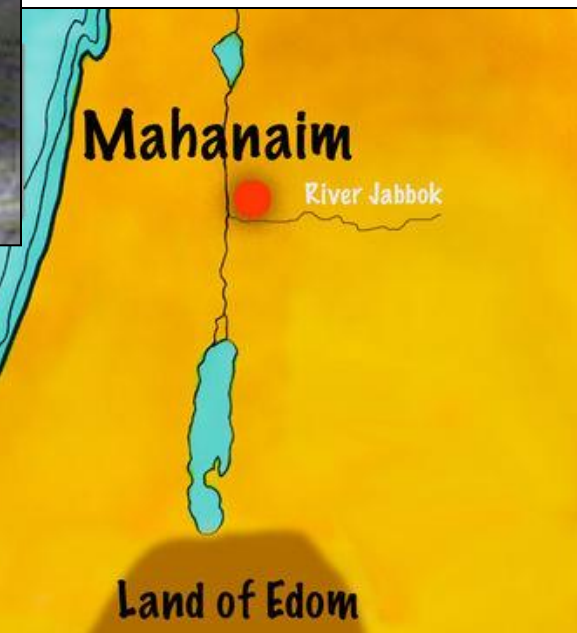
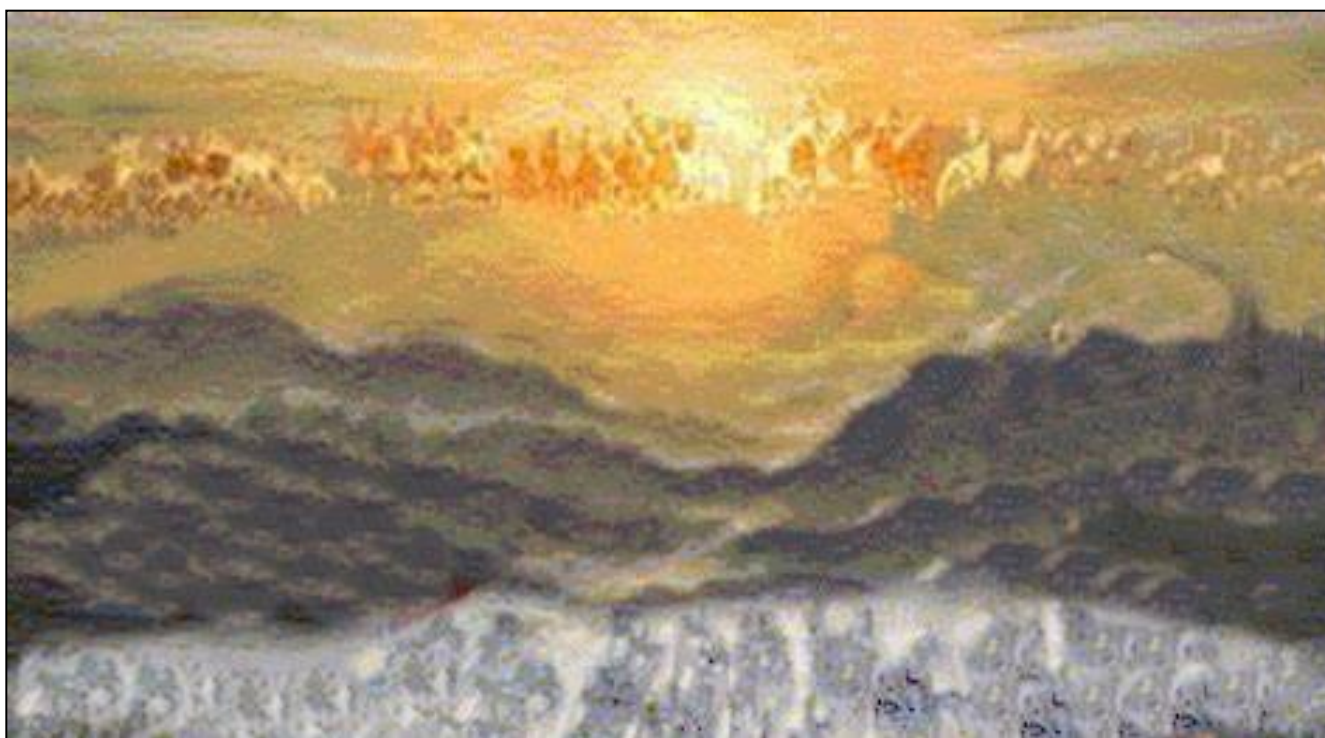


# Genesis 32



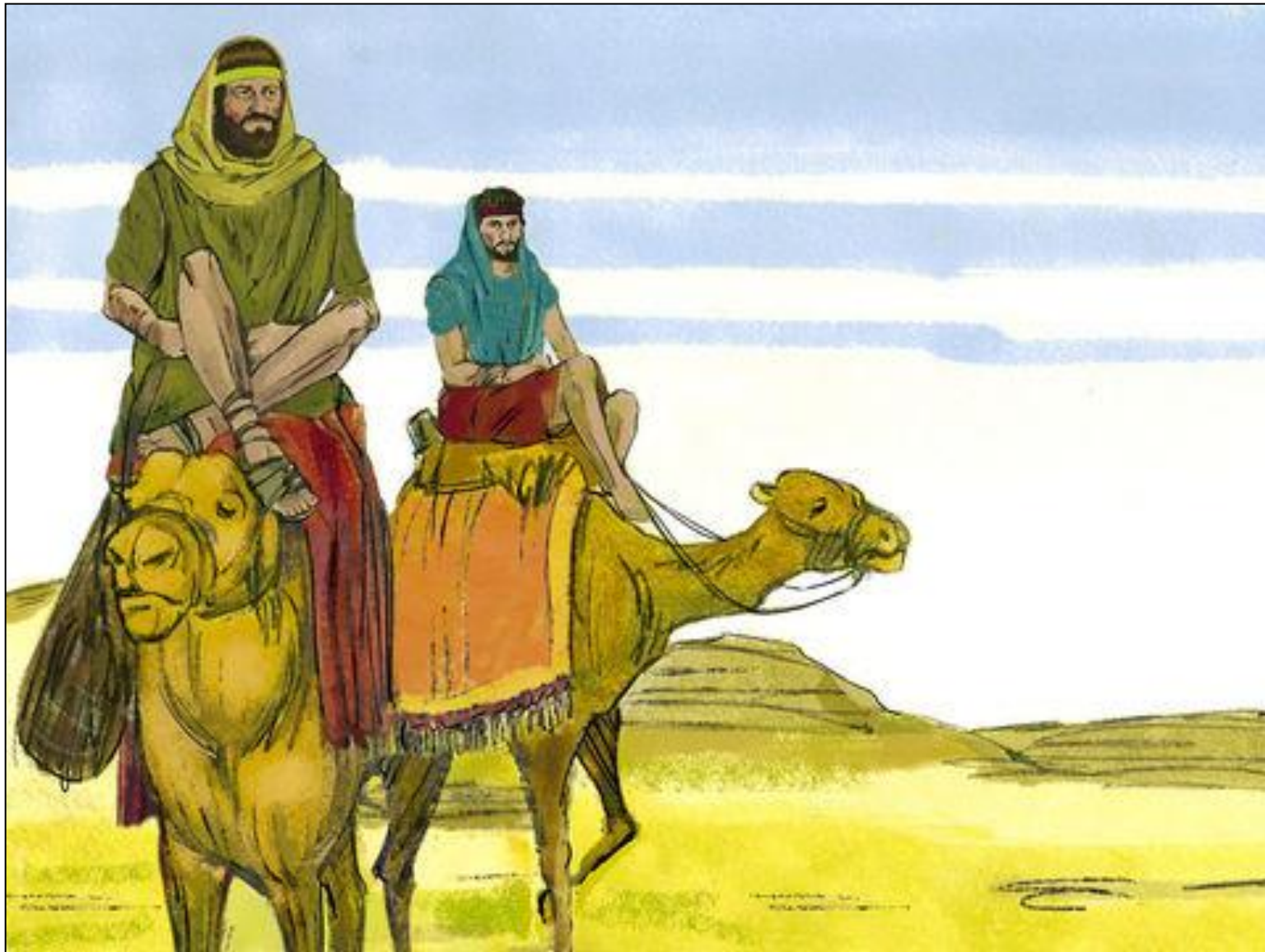
Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him.  
When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is the camp of God!"  
So he **named** that place Mahanaim.

v.1-2



An encouraging start !

Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. v.3-5



He instructed them.. "This is what you are to say to my **master** Esau.. "

v.3-5

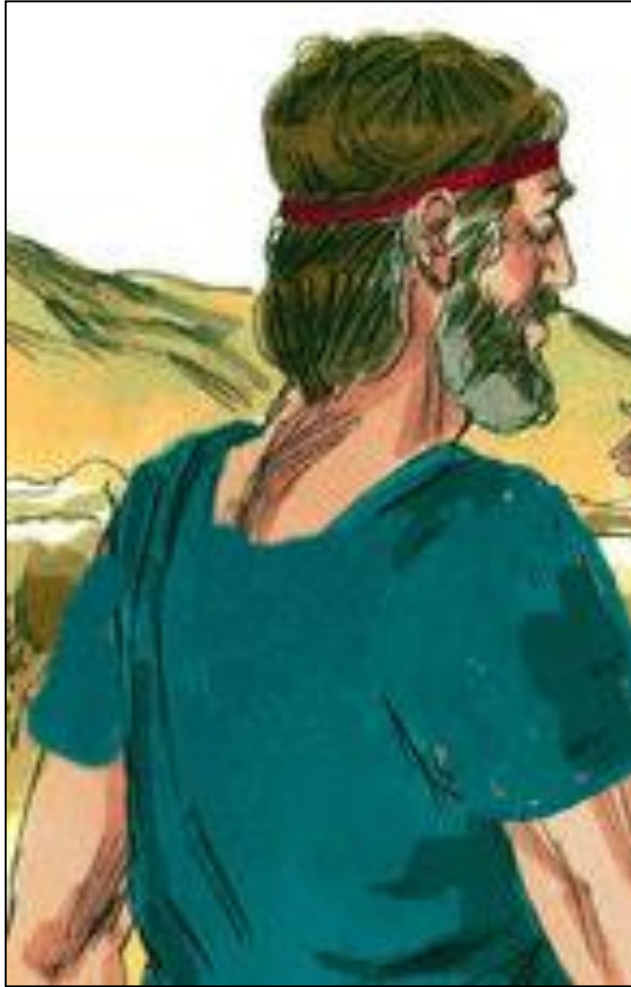
`Your **servant** Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now. I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, menservants and maidservants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find favour in your eyes.`

**Note what he leaves out  
about how he came to be with Laban**

When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." v.6



In great fear and distress



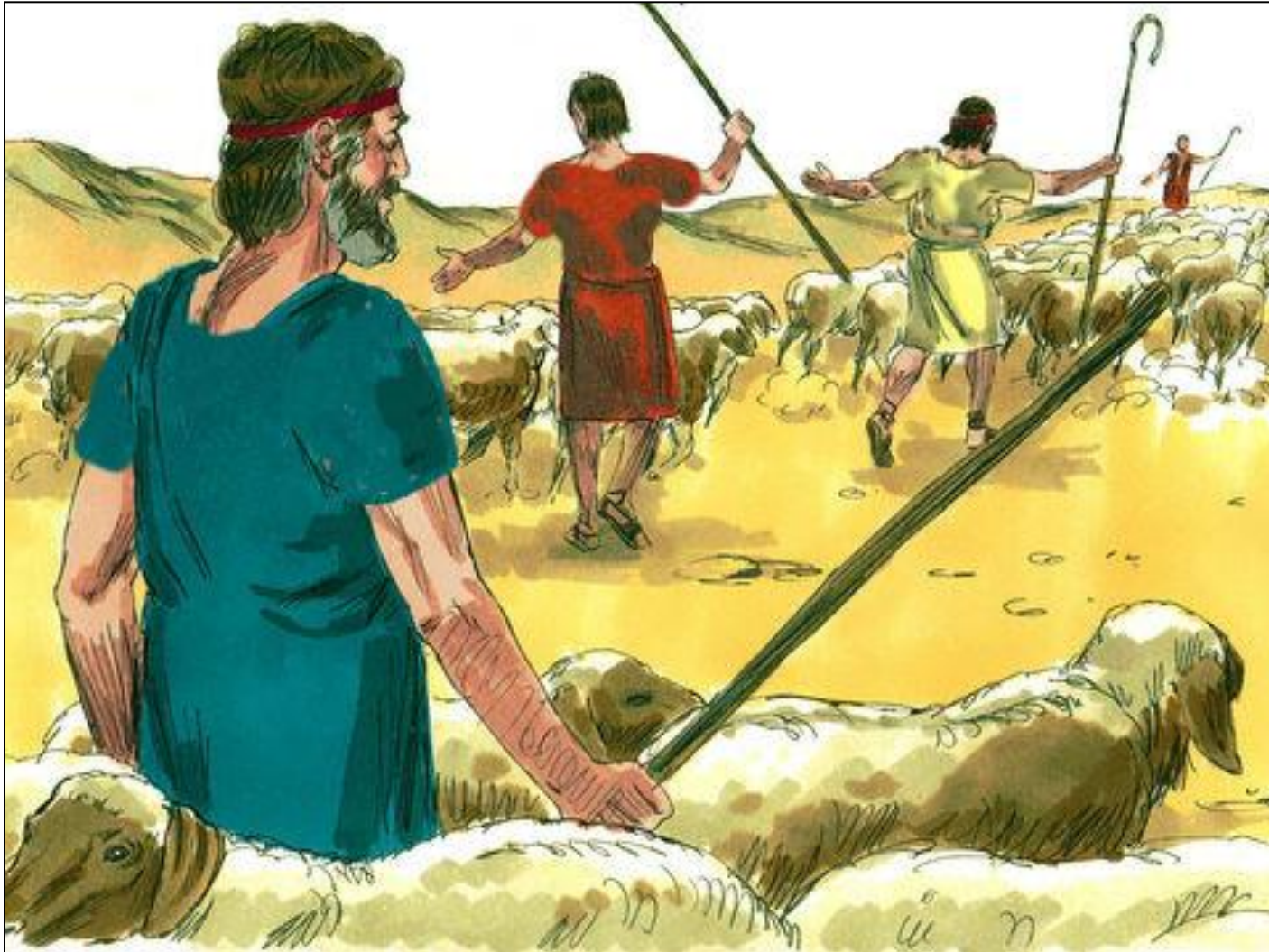
## A guilty conscience

**Why doesn't God tell Jacob  
that Esau will be friendly ?**

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,  
The clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy and shall brake  
With blessings on your head.

William Cowper

In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape."  
v.7-8



Then Jacob prayed,

v.9-12



At last !  
When he's tried everything else

This is the first 'recorded' prayer apart from Genesis 4:26



Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, O LORD, who said to me, `Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,` I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups. Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. But you have said, `I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.`"

v.9-12



# A Powerful Prayer



Covenant relationship

"O God of my father Abraham,  
God of my father Isaac, O  
LORD, who said to me,

`Go back to your country and  
your relatives, and I will make  
you prosper,`

Your promise

I am unworthy of all the  
kindness and faithfulness you  
have shown your servant. ...

Confession

Request

Save me, I pray, from the hand  
of my brother Esau,

# A Powerful Prayer



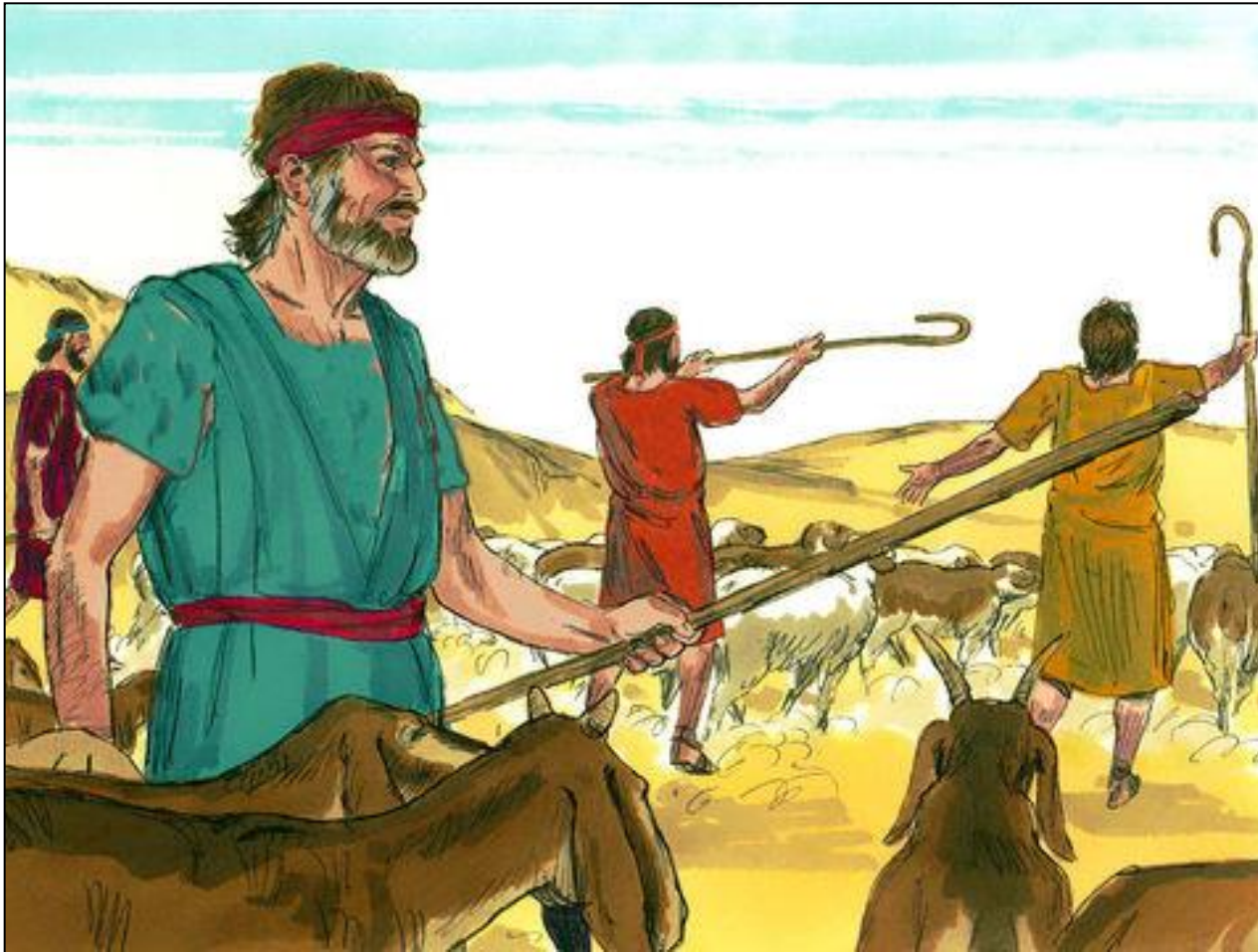
for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children.

It's not just about me

But you have said, `I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.`" v.9-12

You've promised to bless them

He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift for his brother Esau.. two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. v.13-19

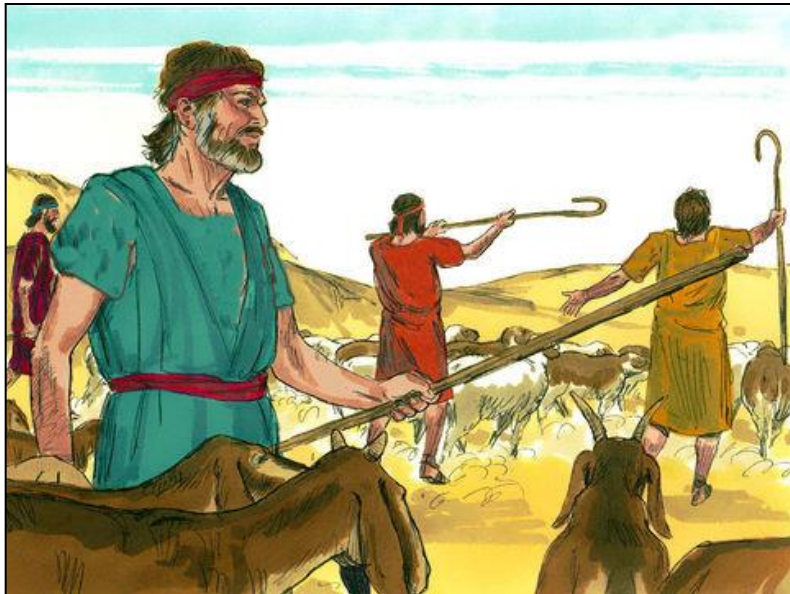


**Quite a gift !**

**Back into  
“Jacob mode”**

He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, "Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds." He instructed the one in the lead.. "When my brother Esau meets you and asks, `To whom do you belong, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?' then you are to say, `They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.`" He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds.. "You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him.

v.13-19

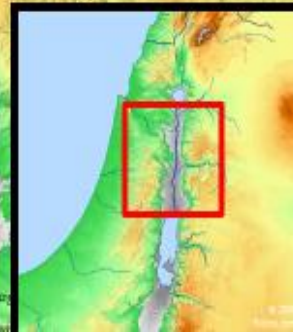


**Trying to soften him ?**

And be sure to say, `Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.`"  
For he thought, "I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on  
ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me." So  
Jacob`s gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night  
in the camp. v.20-21



That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maidservants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. v.22-23



So Jacob was left alone, v.24

"So Jacob was left alone..."







Who is the “mysterious man” ? Why all night long ?

When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob`s hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.

v.25

Contrast what the 'man' could not do and what he did



Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." v.26



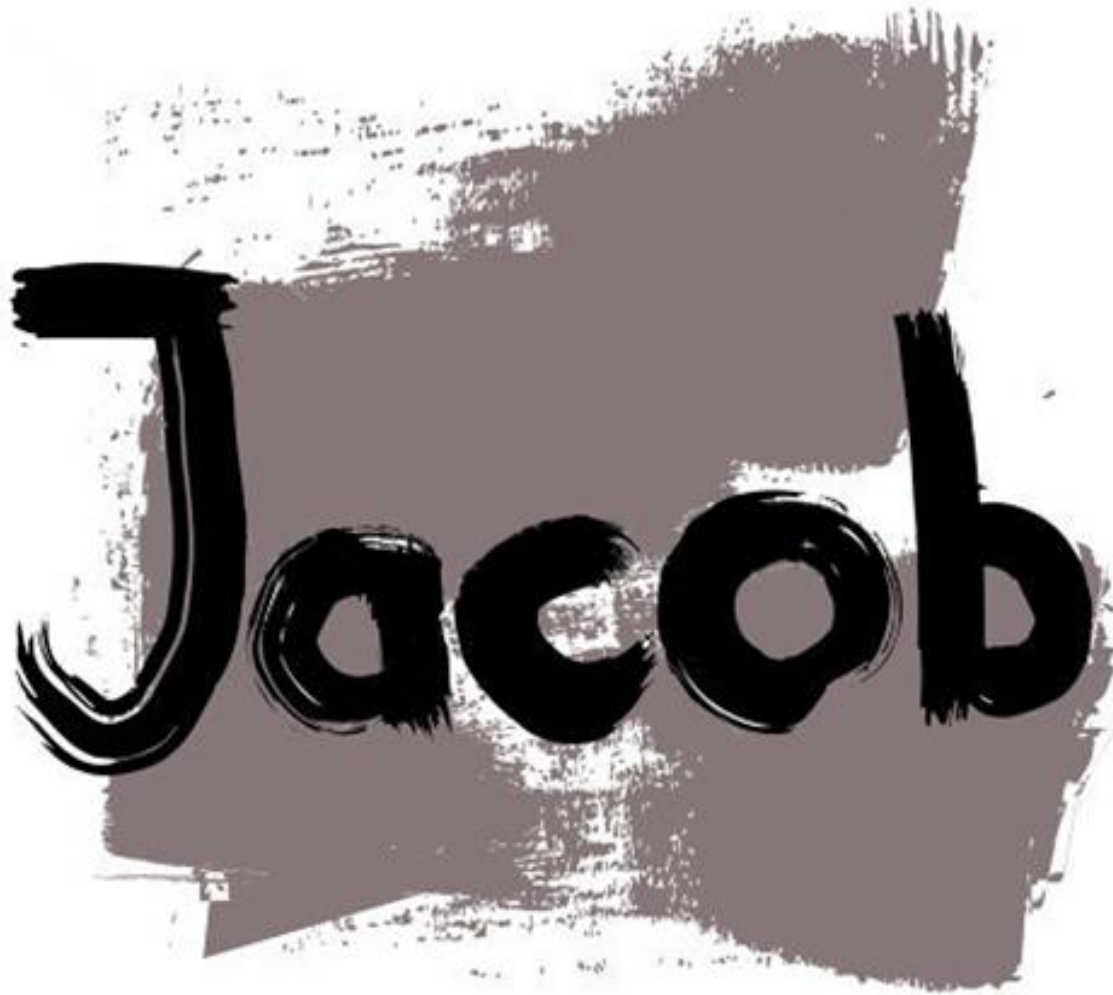
In the womb he grasped his brother`s heel; as a man he struggled with God. He struggled with the angel and overcame him; he wept and begged for his favour.

Hosea 12: 3-4

**What did Jacob want ?**

The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.

v.27



**Jacob**

**What's in the name ?**

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men **and have overcome.**"

v.28

What does "Israel" mean ? "he struggled with God" Hosea 12:3



**New name = new nature.**

Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there. v.29

It's not the time to reveal His name

*(1000+ years later)*

Isaiah 9: 6, Wonderful .....

Isaiah 7: 14 Emmanuel

*(2000 years later)*

Matthew 1:21 Jesus



So Jacob **called the place** Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared." v.30

## **Peniel = the Face of God**



**Something to remember**

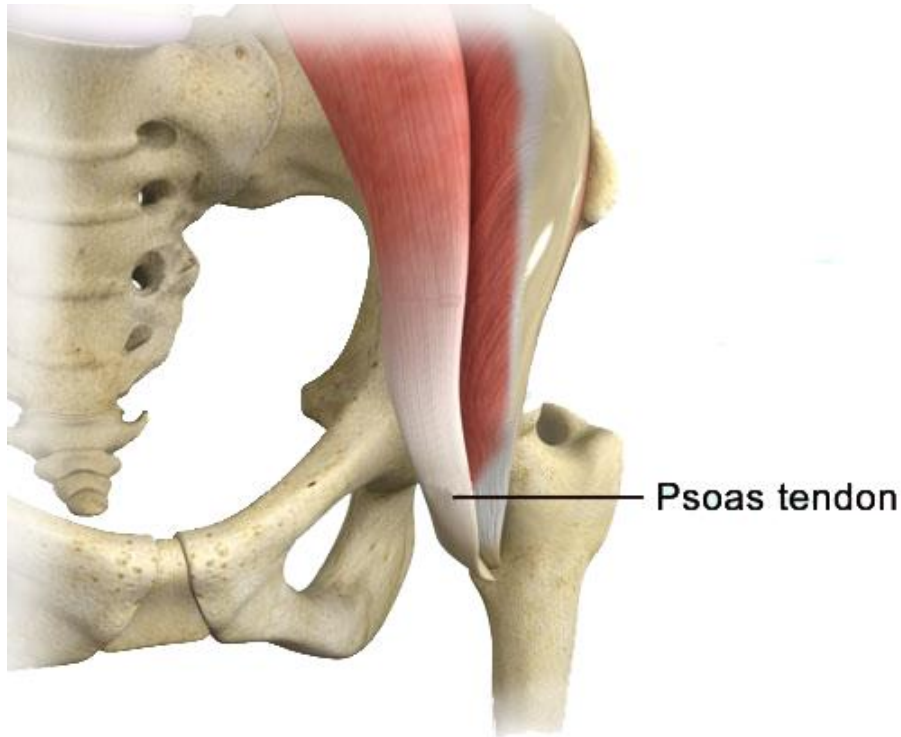
The **sun rose above him** as he passed Peniel,  
and he was limping because of his hip. v.31



**Something to remember**



Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob`s hip was touched near the tendon. v.32



Not eaten in animal meat !

Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob`s hip was touched near the tendon. v.32

## **What is the significance ?**

**It's a reminder again  
that their ancestor was touched by God  
who keeps his covenant promises**



# Alone with the LORD

