

## **Q & A Series**

### **Did Jacob Really Wrestle With God?**

**Genesis 32: 22-38**

**Hosea 12: 3-5**

Question: Did Jacob Really Wrestle With God?

We see in this story what is known as a Christophany.

The simple answer to the question is \_\_\_\_\_.

We need to ask. Why did God wrestle with Jacob?

**Consider...**

- **Jacob's** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Jacob's** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Jacob's** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Jacob's** \_\_\_\_\_.

**What about** \_\_\_\_\_ ?

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#### **Message Application:**

I recently watched a YouTube short. It was Arnold Schwarzenegger talking about the pro-wrestler turned actor Andrea the Giant. Schwarzenegger tells how, after having dinner with Andrea, they started fighting over the check. Arnold said, "You are my guest and I am going to pay for dinner!" (be honest; you just read that in your best Schwarenegger voice)

Arnold went on to tell Andrea that in the ring Andrea was the boss, but here out of the ring I (Arnold) was the boss. Andrea then got up and picked Schwarenegger up and set him up on top of a large piece of furniture as if Arnold was a ragdoll! Schwarenegger commented that it just goes to show you how strong Andrea the Giant was.

Today we looked at another wrestling match. We can speculate why God would appear as a man. We can marvel at the determination of Jacob not letting go of this “man” until he received a blessing. The real aspect of the story we should be amazed at is the fact that God bothered to wrestle at all.

This wrestling match was uneven in every way! Just like Arnold and Andrea. Meditate on this question: Why would God allow man to wrestle with him? Could it be that God favors us? God doesn’t put up with us. He loves us. He loved Jacob and wanted to bless him. Jacob couldn’t make God bless him. God blessed him because Jacob had reached the end of himself. The con-man who always worked the angles and alway looked out for his own interest, finally surrendered. So when Jacob came to the end of himself; God gave him a new life. His name is changed, his perspective is changed, his direction is changed. Jacob became Israel. God’s promise which started with Jacob’s grandfather Abraham would be fulfilled. This all happened so God would prove himself to Jacob and Jacob would magnify the name of the LORD!

Friend, how is your wrestling match with the Almighty God going? Let me give you a little advice; surrender! You are only fooling yourself and wasting precious moments of your blessing by fighting with King Jesus.

“All to Jesus I surrender. All to Him I truly give.  
I will ever love and trust Thee. In Your presence daily live.  
I surrender all,  
I surrender all,  
All to Thee my precious Savior,  
I surrender All!”  
- Judson W. Van DeVenter

Grace & Peace,  
Wm.Lyons