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Jacob's Return
(Genesis 31 - 33)

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Jacob's Return | Genesis 31–33

God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him from Laban	Gen 31
God Wrestles with Jacob and Renames Him Israel	Gen 32
God Reconciles Jacob with Esau and Becomes His God	Gen 33

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

[1] Now Jacob heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and from what belonged to our father he has made all this wealth." [2] Jacob saw the attitude of Laban, and behold, it was not friendly toward him as formerly. [3] Then the Lord said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you."

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

4 So Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to his flock in the
field, 5 and said to them, “I see your father’s attitude, that it is
not friendly toward me as formerly, but the God of my father
has been with me. 6 You know that I have served your father
with all my strength. 7 Yet your father has cheated me and
changed my wages ten times; however, God did not allow him
to hurt me.

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

14 Rachel and Leah said to him, “Do we still have any portion
or inheritance in our father’s house? 15 Are we not reckoned
by him as foreigners? For he has sold us, and has also
entirely consumed our purchase price. 16 Surely all the wealth
which God has taken away from our father belongs to us and
our children; now then, do whatever God has said to you.”

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

17 Then Jacob arose and put his children and his wives upon
camels; 18 and he drove away all his livestock and all his
property which he had gathered, his acquired livestock which
he had gathered in Paddan-aram, to go to the land of Canaan
to his father Isaac.

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

19 When Laban had gone to shear his flock, then Rachel stole
the household idols that were her father's. 20 And Jacob
deceived Laban the Aramean by not telling him that he was
fleeing. 21 So he fled with all that he had; and he arose and
crossed the Euphrates River, and set his face toward the hill
country of Gilead.

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God Calls Jacob Home and Delivers Him | Gen 31

41 These twenty years I have been in your house; I served you
fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your
flock, and you changed my wages ten times. 42 If the God of
my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had not
been for me, surely now you would have sent me away
empty-handed. God has seen my affliction and the toil of my
hands, so He rendered judgment last night."

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

1 As Jacob went on his way, the angels of God met him.
2 Jacob said when he saw them, “This is God’s camp.” So he named that place Mahanaim.

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

3 Then Jacob sent messengers before him to his brother Esau
in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. 4 He also commanded
them saying, “Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: ‘Thus says
your servant Jacob, “I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed
until now; 5 I have oxen and donkeys and flocks and male and
female servants; and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may
find favor in your sight.”’”

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

6 The messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to
your brother Esau, and furthermore he is coming to meet
you, and four hundred men are with him.” 7 Then Jacob was
greatly afraid and distressed; and he divided the people who
were with him, and the flocks and the herds and the camels,
into two companies; 8 for he said, “If Esau comes to the one
company and attacks it, then the company which is left will
escape.”

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

9 Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my
father Isaac, O Lord, who said to me, ‘Return to your country
and to your relatives, and I will prosper you,’ 10 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.

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

[11] Deliver me, I pray, from the hand of my brother, from the
hand of Esau; for I fear him, that he will come and attack me
and the mothers with the children. [12] For You said, 'I will
surely prosper you and make your descendants as the sand
of the sea, which is too great to be numbered.' "

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

24 Then Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him
until daybreak. 25 When he saw that he had not prevailed
against him, he touched the socket of his thigh; so the socket
of Jacob's thigh was dislocated while he wrestled with him.
26 Then he said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking." But he
said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

27 So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said,
“Jacob.” 28 He said, “Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but
Israel; for you have striven with God and with men and have
prevailed.”

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

29 Then Jacob asked him and said, “Please tell me your name.”
But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And he blessed
him there. 30 So Jacob named the place Peniel, for he said, “I
have seen God face to face, yet my life has been preserved.”

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God Wrestles Jacob, Renames Him Israel | Gen 32

31 Now the sun rose upon him just as he crossed over Penuel,
and he was limping on his thigh. 32 Therefore, to this day the
sons of Israel do not eat the sinew of the hip which is on the
socket of the thigh, because he touched the socket of Jacob's
thigh in the sinew of the hip.

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God Reconciles Jacob and Esau | Gen 33

[1] Then Jacob lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau was
coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the
children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. [2] He put
the maids and their children in front, and Leah and her
children next, and Rachel and Joseph last. [3] But he himself
passed on ahead of them and bowed down to the ground
seven times, until he came near to his brother.

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God Reconciles Jacob and Esau | Gen 33

4 Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.

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God Becomes Jacob's God | Gen 33

18 Now Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in
the land of Canaan, when he came from Paddan-aram, and
camped before the city. 19 He bought the piece of land where
he had pitched his tent from the hand of the sons of Hamor,
Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money. 20 Then
he erected there an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel.

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

I fled Him, down the nights and down the days;
I fled Him, down the arches of the years;
I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways
Of my own mind; and in the mist of tears
I hid from Him, and under running laughter.
Up vistaed hopes I sped;
And shot, precipitated,
Adown Titanic glooms of chasmèd fears,
From those strong Feet that followed, followed after.

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

But with unhurrying chase,
And unperturbèd pace,
Deliberate speed, majestic instancy,
They beat—and a Voice beat
More instant than the Feet—
‘All things betray thee, who betrayest Me.’

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

In the rash lustihead of my young powers,
I shook the pillaring hours
And pulled my life upon me; grimed with smears,
I stand amid the dust o’ the mounded years—
My mangled youth lies dead beneath the heap....

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

My freshness spent its wavering shower i’ the dust;
And now my heart is as a broken fount,
Wherein tear-drippings stagnate, spilt down ever
From the dank thoughts that shiver
Upon the sighful branches of my mind.
Such is; what is to be?
The pulp so bitter, how shall taste the rind?

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

Now of that long pursuit
Comes on at hand the bruit;
That Voice is round me like a bursting sea:
‘And is thy earth so marred,
Shattered in shard on shard?
Lo, all things fly thee, for thou fliest Me!
Strange, piteous, futile thing!

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

Wherefore should any set thee love apart?
Seeing none but I makes much of naught’ (He said),
‘And human love needs human meriting:
How hast thou merited—
Of all man’s clotted clay the dingiest clot?
Alack, thou knowest not
How little worthy of any love thou art!
Whom wilt thou find to love ignoble thee,
Save Me, save only Me?

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

All which I took from thee I did but take,
Not for thy harms,
But just that thou might’st seek it in My arms.
All which thy child’s mistake
Fancies as lost, I have stored for thee at home:
Rise, clasp My hand, and come!’

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“The Hound of Heaven” | Francis Thompson

Halts by me that footfall:
Is my gloom, after all,
Shade of His hand, outstretched caressingly?
‘Ah, fondest, blindest, weakest,
I am He Whom thou seekest!
Thou dravest love from thee, who dravest Me.’

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