

## Genesis 32-33 Bible Devotions

### ☐ Monday - Angels All Around Me.

Genesis 32:1

On his way to confront Esau, whom Jacob feared would kill him (Gen. 27:41-42), our text explains, “the angels of God met him” (Gen. 32:1). The New Testament tells us that angels are “ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation” (Heb. 1:14). So ironclad is the hedge of protection around every child of God, that no difficulty may befall us apart from God’s perfect design which orders only those trials that will purge His people of impurity and draw them closer to Him. Read 2 Kings 6:8-17

### ☐ Tuesday - Worthiness?

Genesis 32:10

Jacob cried out to the Lord, “I am *unworthy* of all the lovingkindness and of all the faithfulness which Thou hast shown to Thy servant” (Gen. 32:10). This is the heart-cry of one whose eyes have been opened to the grace of God. Our communion with God is based, not on our own merit or self-worth (self-esteem?), but on the unmerited favor of God! A treasure chest finds its worth, not in its rough exterior, but in the surpassing value of the treasure inside. Christian, you have something infinitely better than self-esteem, for “we have this *treasure* (Christ) in *earthen vessels* (that’s you)” (2 Cor. 4:7). Read Jeremiah 9:23-24

### ☐ Wednesday - Praying According to God’s Word.

Genesis 32:12:

Here is Jacob’s prayer for deliverance, “Deliver me, I pray, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he come and attack me ...For Thou didst say, ‘I will surely prosper you, and make your descendants as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude’” (Gen. 32:11-12). Jacob appeals to God’s earlier promise to bless him (Gen. 28:14) and be with him (Gen. 31:3). This is the essence of prayer that prevails with God: when God’s people pray according to His Word. Read 1 John 5:14-15

### ☐ Thursday - Clinging to God.

Genesis 32:26

Jacob wrestled with “a man” (v. 24), who is later identified as God (v. 30); Here, we have yet another theophany in Genesis; that is, a preincarnate appearance of Christ (cf. Gen. 3:8-10, 18:1-3). All of Jacob’s life up until chapter 32 had been characterized by this wrestling match – a carnal striving to secure God’s blessing (cf. Gen. 25:29-33; 27:1-29; 30:41-43). But after wrestling all night, Jacob came to an end of struggling and began clinging. He exclaimed, “I will not let you go unless you bless me” (v. 26). Jacob had learned, as we must, that heavenly blessing comes not by fighting with God, but by *clinging* to Him. Read Joshua 23:8

### ☐ Friday - Prevailing With God.

Genesis 32:24-26

God has purposed to bless His people as they *prevail* with Him. Like Jacob, we prevail with God by: [1] recognizing our own inadequacies, [2] trusting in God’s promises as revealed in His Word, and [3] clinging to God alone to do what He has promised. Read 1 Peter 5:6-7