

“WHAT IS YOUR NAME?”

Pastor Mark Johnson

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INTRO: An angel asked Jacob his name (Gen. 32:27). What is your name? What is your God-given identity and destiny? At times God changed people’s names when He wanted them to have a different identity & destiny (Rom. 4:17). Don’t allow your past to determine your future! Will you cooperate with God’s narrative for your life?

I. ABRAM & SARAI TO ABRAHAM & SARAH (Gen. 17:1-6, 15-22)

A. From Abram [exalted father] to Abraham [father of a multitude] (Gen. 17:1-6).

1. Know God’s identity [Who God is].
2. Get your identity & destiny from Almighty God.

B. From Sarai [princely] to Sarah [queen or mother of princes] (Gen. 17:15-22).

C. They both struggled with their new identity/destiny.

II. JACOB [supplanter, cheater, deceiver] TO ISRAEL [wrestled & prevailed with God] (Gen. 32).

A. The birth of Jacob - supplanter (Gen. 25:24-26).

B. Jacob’s life of deception (Gen. 25-31).

1. Supplanting Esau’s birthright (Gen. 25:29-34).
2. Supplanting Esau’s blessing (Gen. 27).
3. Jacob reaped what he sowed (Gen. 29-31).

C. Jacob is reconciled with Esau after his encounter with an angel and a name change (Gen. 32).

III. YOUR NEW NAME (Rev. 2:17)!

IV. WHAT IS YOUR NAME (Jer. 1:5; Psalm 139)?

IDENTITY SCRIPTURES: Gen. 1:27; Ps. 139:1, 14; Rom.5:1; 6:4; 8:16-17, 29-30; 37-39; Eph. 1:3-7, 11-13; 2:4, 6, 8-10, 19; 1Jn. 1:9; 3:2; Acts 13:39; 1Cor. 3:9, 16; 2Cor. 2:15; 5:17, 21; Gal. 2:20; 4:7; 5:1; Jn. 1:12; Phil. 1:6; 3:20; 4:13; 1Pet. 1:5; 2:9-10; 4:10; Matt. 5:13-16; Col. 2:10; Mk. 9:23; Jer. 29:11; etc.

CONCLUSION: Know and believe who God says you are!