

“BROKENNESS - A KEY TO KINGDOM FRUITFULNESS [Part 3]” (Genesis 32:26-32)

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INTRO: As followers of Jesus, we have amazing potential to bear much kingdom fruit. One of the primary reasons we are not living up to our kingdom potential is because of not being sufficiently broken, like a grain of wheat (John 12:24), an alabaster flask (Mk. 14:3) and a horse (Ps. 32:9; Ja. 3:3; Prov. 26:3). God can use anything He chooses to be an instrument of breaking. Our soul can become troubled, but we should present & yield our soul to God (Matt. 11:28-30).

I. THE BREAKING OF JACOB (Gen. 32:24-32).

- A. Jacob [Supplanter] tried to advance himself through exerting his outward man (Gen. 25:24-34; 27:1-40; 30:25-43).
- B. He fled to his uncle Laban’s and received some of his own medicine as a means of God’s breaking him (Gen. 27:41-46; 29:15-30; 30:7; 31:41).
- C. Jacob’s wrestling with God (Gen. 32:24-32).
 - 1. Some battles must be fought alone (v. 24).
 - 2. Perhaps Jacob was wresting just as much with himself as he was with this angel!
 - 3. The battle disabled Jacob’s flesh – broke his outward man (vv. 25, 31-32).
 - 4. What blessing was Jacob asking for (v. 26)?
 - 5. This breaking led to a name change – from Jacob [Supplanter] to Israel [Prince of God]!
 - 6. Was this the blessing Jacob was pursuing – to be broken so he could fulfill his God-given destiny?
 - 7. When you’re struggling with people, you may actually be struggling with God and your outward man!
 - 8. Did Jacob “*prevail*” by allowing himself to finally be broken (vv. 27-29)?
- D. There are some battles you win by choosing to lose (Jn. 12:25)!
- E. Have you encountered “*Peniel*” – the Face of God and yielded to its transforming power (Gen. 32:30; 2Cor. 3:18)?
- F. Do you walk with a limp – having had your outward man broken by the Lord so you can walk out your God-given potential?

II. INVITING THE LORD TO HEAL, DELIVER & RESTORE YOUR SOUL (Ps. 23:1, 3; 25:20; 41:4; 69:18; 116:4, 7-8; 142:7; 143:11-12).

III. MINISTRY TO OTHERS THROUGH BROKENNESS.

- A. We need to be strengthened by God’s Spirit in our inner man (Eph. 3:16-17).
- B. We are to become rooted and grounded in love, which then flows through us to others.
- C. God wants to fill us with His fullness so His power can work powerfully in and through us (Eph. 3:18-20).
- D. God wants to flow grace, edification and kindness through us (Eph. 4:29-32; 2Cor. 5:16).
- E. Ministering out of our soulish realm will produce soulish rather than transformational results.
- F. It is difficult to minister to others in areas where we’re not yet broken. (Matt. 7:3-5).

CONCLUSION: Let’s yield to the breaking process!