

Genesis 32:13-32

"Safe from God, Our Greatest Danger, in Christ"

Are you safe from your greatest danger? Pastor leads his family in a tomorrow's Hopewell @Home passage. In these twenty verses, we come face to face with God and survive in Christ. If we realize that He has loved us and given Himself to be our own safety from the wrath that we deserve from Him, our greatest danger, then we will learn to depend securely upon Him in the face of any other danger.

(Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors in the auto-transcription below. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are welcome to listen to the audio recording, which you may find via tinysa.com/hopewellarp)

Genesis 32 verse 13.Through 32.These are God's words.So he lodge there that same night and he took what came to his hand as a present-free saw his brother 200 female goats and 20 male goats 200 years and 20 rants 30 mil camels with their Colts 40 cows 10 bowls, 20 female donkeys and tenfolds.

And he delivered them to the hand of his servants every drove by itself and he said to his servants pass over before me and put some distance between successive droves and he commanded the first one saying when he's on my brother meets you and asked you saying to whom do you belong where you're going who's are these in front of you then you're so say they are your servant.

Jacobs it is a present.Sent to my Lord Esau and behold he also is behind us.So he commanded the second.The third.And all who follow the drove saying in this manner, you shall speak to Esau when you find him.

And also say behold your servant. Jacob is behind us for he said, I will appease him of the present that you guys before me and afterward. I will see his face perhaps he will accept me yes as he got me.Chapter 32.And we're about to start verse 21, so right here.

So the present went on over before him but he himself lodged that night in the camp when he arose that night took his two wives his two female servants his eleven sons and crossed over the four of jabeck.He took them and sent them over the brook and sent over what he had.

And then Jacob was left alone and a man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.Now when he saw he that he did not prevail against him.He touched the socket of his hip.And the socket of Jacob's hit was out of joint as he wrestled with him and he said let me go for the day breaks and he said I will not let you go unless you bless me.

So he said to him, what is your name he said Jacob?And he said your name shall no longer be called Jacob but it's rail for you have struggled with God and with men.And have prevailed.Then Jacob asked

saying tell me your name. I pray. And he said, why is it that you ask me about my name and he blessed him there?

So Jacob called the name of that place pennielle. Before I have seen God face to face. And my life is preserved. Just as he crossed over Pennywell. The sun rose on him and he limped on his hip. Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrinks which is on the hip socket because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip in the muscle that's shrink.

So far the reading of God's inspired and inherent word.

One of the reasons why believers are sometimes improperly afraid or concerned about something that's going to happen or of someone and they're concerned about doing something. Is because we are not wrestling properly without great our God is with whom we have to deal. This can be seen both in.

Not realizing how easy it is for God to take care of us and handle any situation that we're in. And it can also present itself in not realizing how great our sin is and how great our need for safety from God from God's wrath and from God's enmity. Yes.

And that's the lesson that the Lord teaches Jacob here. Jacob has prayed to God and we focused on the prayer last week in verse 10 when he said I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and all the truth which uses and David to servant goes on verse 11 deliver me.

I pray and then Jacob comes. Up with this big plan of the presence that he's going to send to Esau and a large part of our passage before us this afternoon is in that plan and we see the point of it in verse 20 for he said, I will appease him with the present that goes before me and afterward.

I will see his face. Perhaps he will accept me talking about Esau but by the time we get to the end of the passage the name of the place has not been changed to Penny Esau. The face of Esau the name of the place has been changed to pennial or Pennuel or two different spellings here in our English translation.

Same place face of God same name face of God and it got that because Jacob learned the lesson. So Jacob called the name of the place Beniel for I have seen God face to face and my life is preserved. Now, some people think that it's Royal means struggler with God.

A very plainly literally translated it means God struggles. And either one works along as we see that what God was confronting. Jacob with was that Jacob was in far more danger from God. Than he was from Esau and Jacob probably realizes this just at the end when God says why do you ask my name?

Jacob did not have a right to the name for which he asked but as Hebrews also tells us the greater blesses the lesser and so. When God blesses him there and says, why does it the you ask about my name verse 29 and he blessed him there. That's when Jacob realizes just how much danger he was in all night long.

How can a man wrestle with God and thrive. How can a man even see the face of God for I have seen God face to face and my life is preserved and you remember when God is going to make a display of himself to to Moses and he says the display I make will as it be the the passing of the remnant of the passing of my backside because no one can see my face and live.

How is it that we can survive God when he is holy and he is all my, Meaty and we are wicked and deserving of wrath. And we are creatures literally breathing dust how can we survive God and the reason we can serve God survived God is because God himself makes himself our righteousness our worthiness.

God himself makes himself our strength and he has done this ultimately and eternally in our Lord Jesus Christ and so if we have dealt with God if we have clung to him in Christ and been blessed by him in Christ and survived because Jesus has absorbed. The wrath that our sin deserves and Jesus has been provided by God to save us out of God's love.

If we have dealt with God in Christ, then we could turn and we can face something like Esau coming with 400 men and yes we can make plans and they Jacob carries out his plan and. The Lord blesses it and there's a lot there for us to see in the next passage but whatever it is that you are worried about or having difficulty or whoever whomever you might be afraid of or what they are might do the the key is to be one who has wrestled with God in Jesus Christ and know that God is the one who for Christ's sake.

Brussels for you. So remember it's Penny L not penny you saw that's what we need the most Jacob had prayed that God would deliver him and God's solution was to keep Jacob up all night and wrestle with him to exhaust him completely take away his sleep exhaust him physically disable him by putting his hip out of joint.

But in that condition he was even more prepared to see that the great danger is from God and we have no hope of wrestling with him except by what Jesus has done and if we have the hope of Jesus then there's no amount of weakness or sleep deprivation or exhaustion or disability that puts us at an ultimate disadvantage because God himself.

Is the one who wrestles for us men, let's pray. We asked Lord that you would make us to learn and know for our own heart our own life our own situations. What you taught Jacob here by wrestling him. And we pray not that we might be asleep deprived and exhausted and disabled.

But that you would make us confident in Christ even in our dealing with you that your wrath has been satisfied. That you have brought us into a relationship with you where you name us you express your ownership over us you bless us and so nothing that we face can ultimately.

Endanger or destroy us because you will surely preserve us from everything else if you have preserved us from your wrapping Christ help us to know this. To be confident and joyful in the face of all things. Because you are for us in Jesus and your love cannot be separated from us in Jesus and we are already more than conquerors in Jesus all things are working together for us because of Jesus and you are giving all things to us with Jesus.

Help us to be sure of that. The very center of our heart so we may have such gladness and courage with which to live our lives we ask it in Christine amen.