

Genesis: Back to Authenticity
Wrestling with God
Genesis 32-34

The slogan of the “Ingsoc Party” in George Orwell’s novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* was “Who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past.” Politicians and societies may try to rewrite history in order to fit progressive narratives and maintain power, but history itself (the events that actually took place) cannot be changed.

1. Fear makes us worst-case-scenario people.
2. God meets us in order to move us.
3. Fear makes us forget our identity in Christ.
4. Delayed obedience has devastating consequences.

Christ was not unscathed in His work at the cross. He had the scars to prove the reality of His suffering. Jacob was not unscathed in his conversion. He walked with a limp. True conversion requires a wrestling with our selves, with our own human nature, and with a God who is perfectly holy. It will not leave us unscathed. It is designed to call our attention to the weakness of our flesh. Only then will we be able to say with Paul (2 Cor 12:10), “For when I am weak, then I am strong.”