

***Do you have a scar
or nagging injury?***

What's the story behind it?



GENESIS 32

Jacob's wrestling match with God
where he sustains a dislocated hip

*a strange but relatable story
about wrestling with God*

JACOB'S JOURNEY

Genesis 27-31

27
stole the blessing/ Esau threatens his life

28
takes off for Harran (550 miles away)

29-30
20 years in Harran (big family/ gains wealth)

31
returns home to Beersheba





GULP

GENESIS 31:3

³ Then the Lord said to Jacob,
“Go back to the land of your
fathers and to your relatives,
and I will be with you.”

*...is brother Esau
still mad?*




GULP

x400

GENESIS 32:6

⁶ When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him.”



GENESIS 32:7-8

⁷ In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. ⁸ He thought, “If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape.”



GENESIS 32:20-21

²⁰ And be sure to say, ‘Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.’” For he thought, “I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me.” ²¹ So Jacob’s gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp.



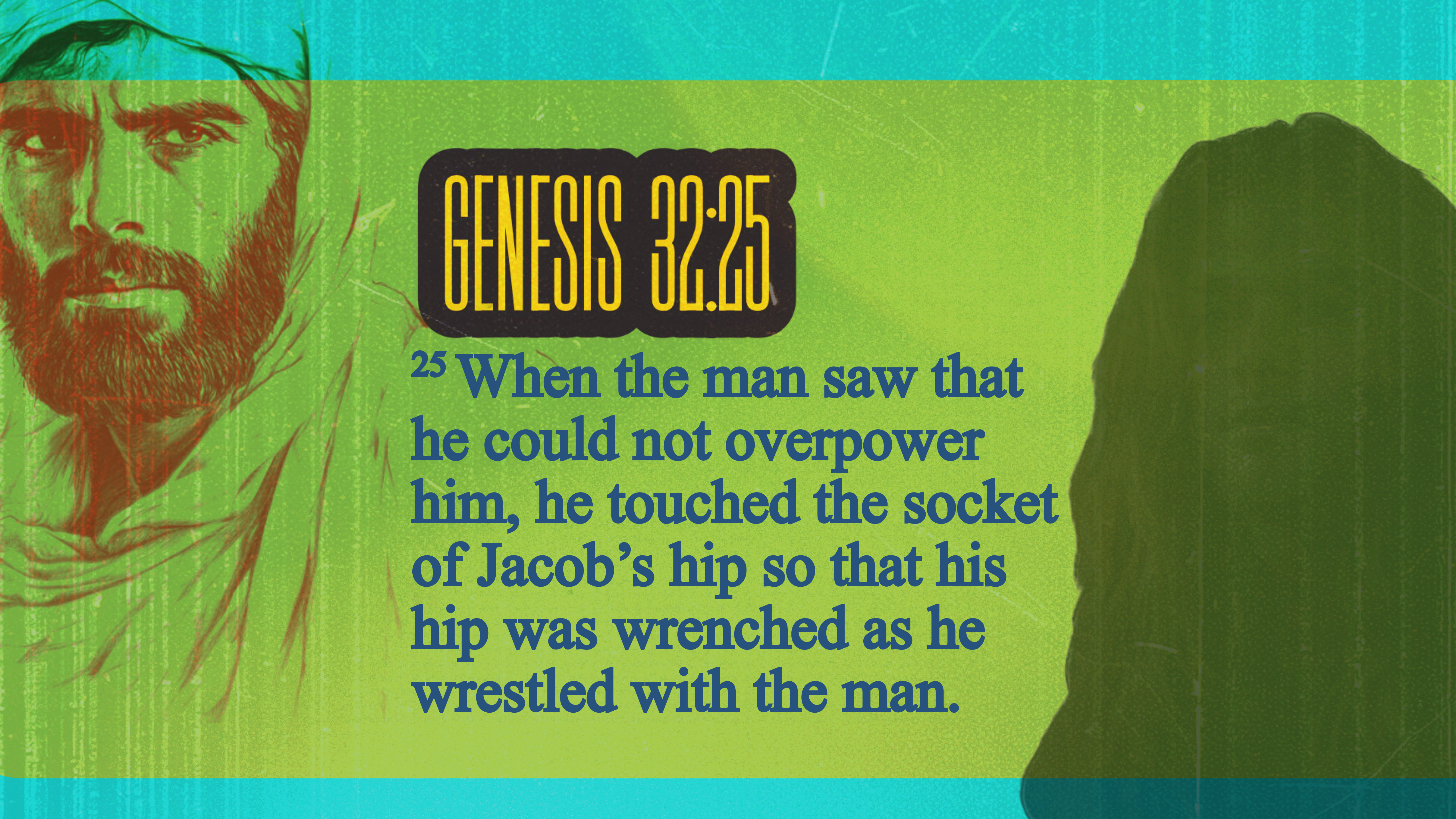
GENESIS 32:22-23

²² That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions.



GENESIS 32:24

²⁴ So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.



GENESIS 32:25

²⁵ When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.



GENESIS 32:26

²⁶ Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.”

But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”



GENESIS 32:27

²⁷ The man asked him,
“What is your name?”

“Jacob,” he answered.



GENESIS 32:28

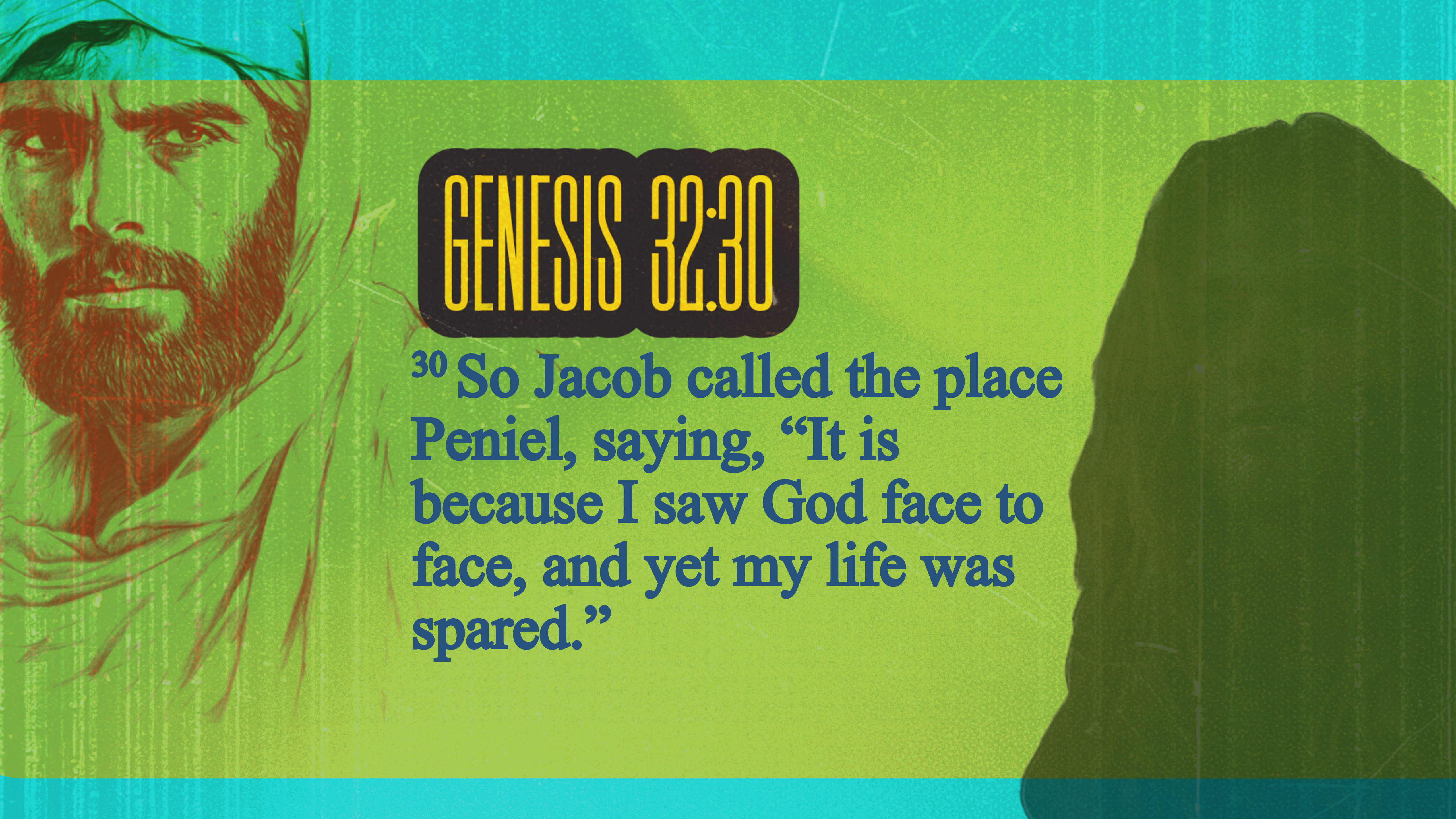
**²⁸ Then the man said,
“Your name will no longer
be Jacob, but Israel,
because you have
struggled with God and
with humans and have
overcome.”**



GENESIS 32:29

²⁹ Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.”

But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there.



GENESIS 32:30

³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.”



GENESIS 32:31

³¹ The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

WRESTLING WITH GOD

is part of your faith journey

In your spiritual journey

GOD WILL PROVIDE COMFORTING EXPERIENCES

but other times

HE WANTS YOU TO STRUGGLE WITH HIM

In the wrestling

GOD MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN

Jacob could now "face" Esau-
his most difficult trial yet-
because he'd seen the "face" of God.

What difficulties and trials are you facing?



WRESTLING WITH GOD

MAY LEAVE A MARK

but it will change you forever