

WRESTLING
ROMANS 12:18 / JUNE 11, 2017 / P.M.

I. FIRST, JACOB WRESTLED WITH HIS FAMILY.

- A. Jacob's first family wrestling opponent was his father.
- B. Jacob's second family wrestling opponent was his twin brother Esau.
 - 1. They were literally born wrestling.
 - 2. Jacob's name reflects this birth struggle---which means "cheater"--Gen. 25:26.
 - 3. Jacob took two things away from Esau--birthright and blessing.
 - 4. Esau's response was serious enough that Jacob left home.
- C. Jacob's third family wrestling opponent was his father-in-law, Laban.
- D. Jacob's story should be a warning to us not to wrestle with our own family or friends--Romans 12:18.

II. JACOB ALSO WRESTLED WITH GOD.

- A. Every Christian has times when they wrestle with God with doubts, anger, or even denials.
- B. Jacob wrestled with God too--Gen. 32:24-26.
- C. Are we wrestling with God about something? He makes the same promise to us that He made to Jacob--Heb. 13:5.

III. WHAT LESSONS CAN WE LEARN FROM JACOB'S LIFE?

- 1. A parent's example impacts their children.
- 2. God knows who you are.
- 3. God doesn't need your help.
- 4. Don't underestimate the law of cause and effect.
- 5. God hasn't forgotten you.
- 6. God has a plan for your life.
- 7. God will humble you if needed.
- 8. You must preserve until the very end.

9. God wants you to be obedient to Him no matter the circumstances.
10. God will bless your obedience--in His time not yours.
11. God wants you to seek Him first.