

GEN. 32:9-12 ESAU COMES TO MEET JACOB – “DELIVER ME, I PRAY!”

8/26/17 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente, ptwente@gmail.com

Just As I Am – Charlotte Elliot/William Bradbury – Billy Graham Choir

1 Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot, to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

DELIVER ME, I PRAY!

Gen 32:9 Then Jacob said, 'O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your family, and I will deal well with you':

Gen 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant; for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two companies.

Gen 32:11 Deliver me, I pray, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he come and attack me and the mother with the children.

Gen 32:12 For You said, 'I will surely treat you well, and make your descendants as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.' "

The Setting:

- Jacob, leaving Syria, going back to Israel, had **just completed a most difficult parting of company with Laban**. Angry with Jacob's departing, Laban proposed a covenant of friendship, to which Jacob agrees. A heap of stones was raised, to keep up the memory of the event. The heap of witness- "Mizpah". **Neither of us will cross this place** to come against the other.
- So Jacob **cannot go north** because of the covenant with Laban
- Now **from the south comes the report** –“ *Then the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and he also is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him."* (Gen. 32:6) - **No place to go! No way out! What do you do?**
- **The need for prayer!!!!** Our rule is **to call upon God in the time of trouble**. Here is a wonderful example to this rule. Its success encourages us to follow this example.
- It was **now a time of Jacob's trouble**, but **he shall be saved out of it**; and here we have him praying for that salvation, **Jer 30:7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.** In his distress he sought the Lord, and He heard Him.
- **Times of fear should be times of prayer; whatever frightens us should drive us to our knees, to our God.**
- It is indeed **worthwhile to examine what was extraordinary** in this prayer. We can learn much as to how to pray.
- Notice **the address**: “**O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me,**”
- This **prayer is remarkable for its simplicity and energy.**
- It is a **model too for prayer**, of which it contains these essential ingredients: -

1. PROPER ADDRESS: Notice the address: “**O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me,**”

2. Deep HUMILITY!

Gen 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant; for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and **now I have become two companies.**

- We can detect a change in Jacob's life. This is the first time we have ever heard him say, “*I am not worthy of the least of Your mercies.*”
- For the first time, he is acknowledging that he might be a sinner in God's sight.

- **We are all sinners, saved by grace.** As long as we are in this life, we have that old nature that isn't even fit to go to heaven. God is not going to let it go to heaven? Our old nature can't cannot go there. That is the reason God had to give us a new nature. Jacob is beginning now to say that he is not worthy.
- When **any man begins to move toward God on that basis**, he will find **God will communicate with him.**
- He went over the Jordan with just his walking stick, his staff—that's all he had. Now he is coming back, and he has become two companies. This is Jacob for you.
- **Humility examples - The centurion** – “*Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof....Jesus said, “I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!” (Mt. 8:8-10); The Syro-Phoenician woman - “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.....O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire. And her daughter was healed from that very hour..” (Mt. 15:27-28)*

3. **MAGNIFYING God's MERCY!**

Gen 32:10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant;

4. **MINIMIZING of the evil to which he was exposed!**

Gen 32:11 Deliver me, I pray, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he come and attack me and the mother with the children.

- Jacob's fear did not make him sink into despair, nor did his prayer make him presume upon God's mercy, **without the use of means. God answers prayers by teaching us to order our affairs.** To pacify Esau, Jacob sent him a present.
- We must not **despair of reconciling ourselves to those most angry** against us.

5. **Pleading the PROMISES that God had made to him!**

Gen 32:12 For You said, 'I will surely treat you well, and make your descendants as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.' "

- *Gen 28:15 Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."*
- *Gen 31:3 The LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you."*

6. **Taking, ENCOURAGEMENT from what God had already done!**

Gen 32:12 For You said, 'I will surely treat you well, ,,,,(v. 10b - for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two companies) and make your descendants as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.' "

- You did **deliver me from Laban, though a peaceful parting**

SUMMARY:

Whether the need is small or your greatest need - PRAY!!!

- **PROPER ADDRESS** - God our Father, in the name of Jesus, in and through the power of the Holy Spirit!
- **BE HUMBLE – The centurion** – “*Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof....Jesus said, “I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!” (Mt. 8:8-10); The Syro-Phoenician woman - “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.....O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire. And her daughter was healed from that very hour.....” (Mt. 15:27-28)*
- **ASK FOR MERCY**
- **MINIMIZE MY PROBLEM/SITUATION, BUT BE REAL WITH GOD**
- **PLEAD GOD'S PROMISES**
- **BE ENCOURAGED BY WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY DONE**

Pray Today For: Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct. Justices: John Roberts, Jr., Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch; President & V.P.: Donald & Melania Trump; Mike & Karen Pence. General James Kelly. The Cabinet and all advisors. Appointee - Christopher Wray, F.B.I.

Please Note: You may see/download any of the past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to: www.ptwente.com