

The Greatness of God

INTERESTS

Examining God's CV

CV

CURRICULUM
VITAE

STRUGGLES

QUALIFICATION

RESUME

EDUCATION

REFERENCES

EXPERIENCE

THE
STRUGGLE

IS REAL

Genesis 32





THE
STRUGGLE

IS REAL

Genesis 32

THE STRUGGLE

ISRAEL

Genesis 32

THE **STRUGGLE** IS REAL

- Who of YOU have struggles?

THE **STRUGGLE** IS REAL

- Who of YOU have struggles?
- Physical – Mental – Social?

THE STRUGGLE **IS REAL**

- **Who of YOU have struggles?**
- **Physical – Mental – Social?**
- **Name Israel's struggles**

THE STRUGGLE **IS REAL**

- **Who of YOU have struggles?**
- **Physical – Mental – Social?**
- **Name Israel's struggles**
 - > Abraham & Isaac**



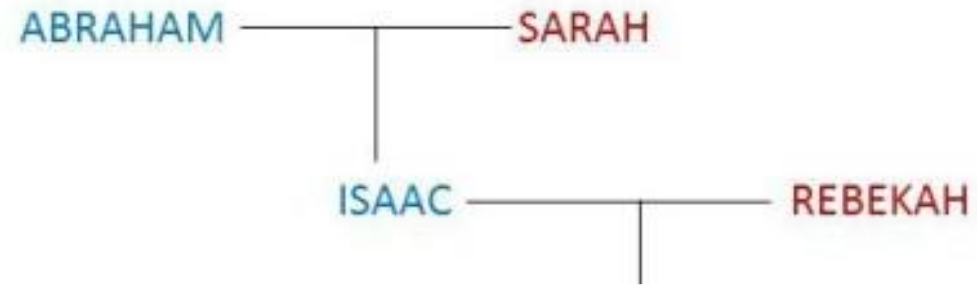
THE STRUGGLE ISRAEL

12 Tribes of Israel



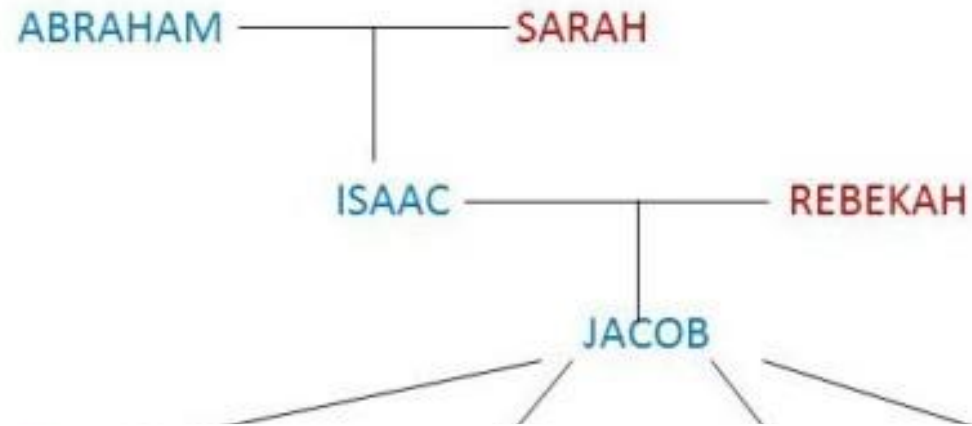
THE STRUGGLE ISRAEL

12 Tribes of Israel



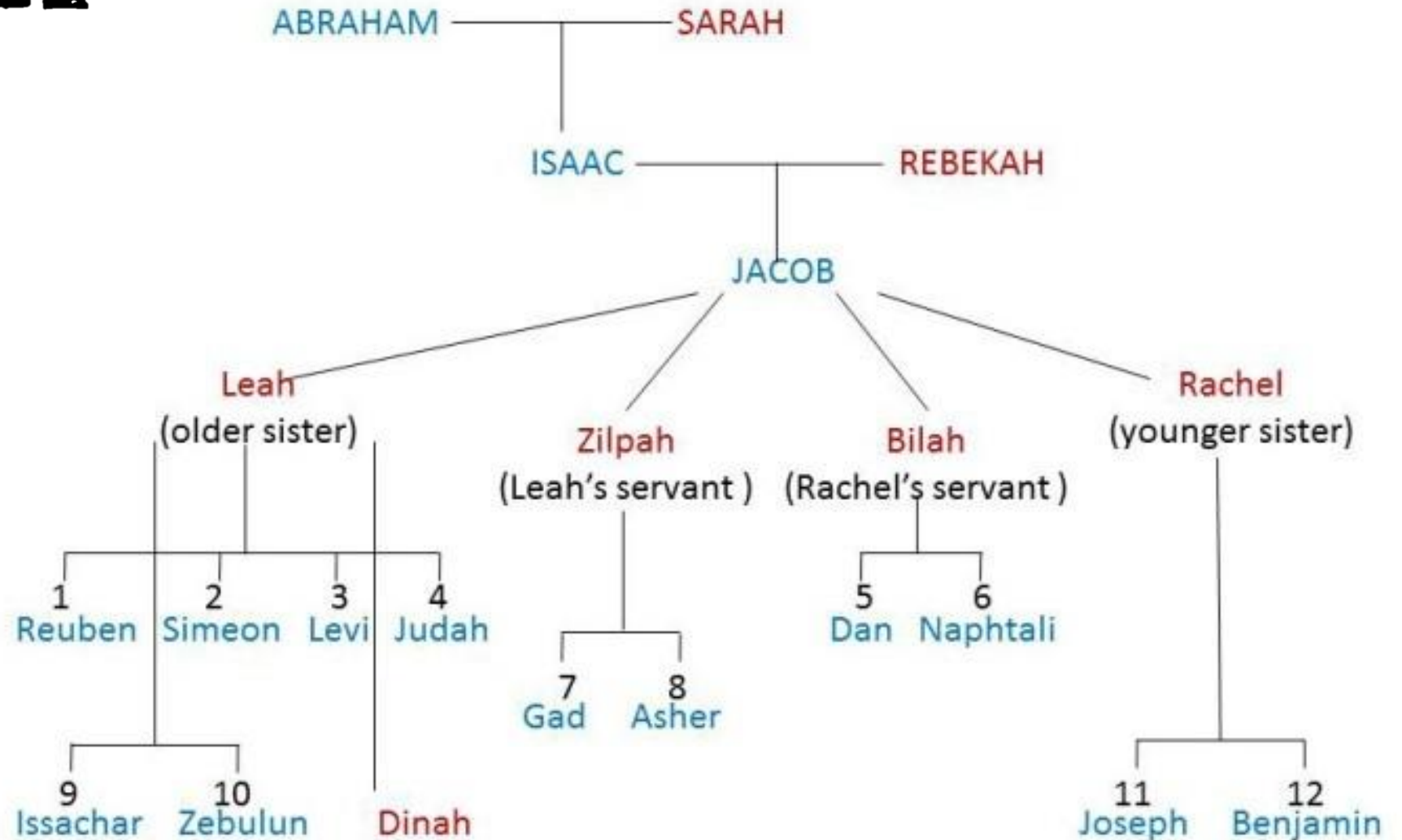
THE STRUGGLE ISRAEL

12 Tribes of Israel



THE STRUGGLE ISRAEL

12 Tribes of Israel



THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

• Why did Israel **STRUGGLE**?

THE **STRUGGLE** IS REAL

- Why did Israel **STRUGGLE?**
- Why do we **STRUGGLE?**

THE STRUGGLE IS REAL

- Why did Israel STRUGGLE?
- Why do we STRUGGLE?
- Does God use STRUGGLE?
...or does He keep us from it?

THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live; and I will
make with you an everlasting covenant,
⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,
declares the LORD. ~Isaiah 55:8-9

THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

What are the CAUSES of
STRUGGLE?

THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

What are the CAUSES of
STRUGGLE?

- The Devil!

THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

What are the CAUSES of **STRUGGLE?**

- The Devil!
- People/Us!!

THE
STRUGGLE
IS REAL

What are the CAUSES of **STRUGGLE?**

- The Devil!
- People/Us!!
- God

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- **Birth of 2 nations**

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- **Birth of 2 nations**
- **Birthright sold**

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- **Birth of 2 nations**
- **Birthright sold**
- **Blessing stole**

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- **Birth of 2 nations**
- **Birthright sold**
- **Blessing stole**
- **Jacob fled**

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- Birth of 2 nations
- Birthright sold
- Blessing stole
- Jacob fled
- Laban fed

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- Birth of 2 nations
- Birthright sold
- Blessing stole
- Jacob fled
- Laban fed
- Seven years x (Leah & Rachel)

The Background

Genesis 25-31

- Birth of 2 nations
- Birthright sold
- Blessing stole
- Jacob fled
- Laban fed
- Seven years x (Leah & Rachel)
- Jacob fears

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ³⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ³⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ³⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

The STRUGGLE is ON!

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a **man** wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ³⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

The STRUGGLE is ON!

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a **man** wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ³⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

•Angel? •Theophany? •Preincarnate Christ?
cf. v.30, "I've seen God" cf. John 14:9, You see Me...

The STRUGGLE is ON!

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a **man** wrestled with him until the **breaking of the day**. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

The STRUGGLE is ON!

I. The Match

Genesis 32

²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a **man** wrestled with him until the **breaking of the day**. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

- The transition from night to LIGHT is analogous to Jacob's spiritual transformation

The STRUGGLE is ON!

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the **day has broken.**”

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

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”

And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the **day has broken.**”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

Transformation complete!

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “**I will not let you go** unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “**I will not let you go** unless you bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

From “winning” to struggling to hang on

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “**What is your name?**”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “**What is your name?**”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “**What is your name?**”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

When was the last time he was asked his name?

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “**Jacob.**”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “**Jacob.**”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “**Jacob.**”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

When was the last time he was asked his name?

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

“Struggled/contended with God”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

II. The Title

Genesis 32

²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.”
But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you
bless me.”

²⁷And he said to him, “What is your name?”
And he said, “Jacob.”

²⁸Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called
Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men, and have prevailed.”

Hope for Israel; hope for mankind!

Application/Challenge

God uses struggles to mold & prune

Application/Challenge

God uses struggles to mold & prune

- Philippians 2: “¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,** ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

Application/Challenge

God uses struggles to mold & prune

•Philippians 2: “¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,** ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

1.) Allow/accept the *STRUGGLE*

Application/Challenge

Allow God to use struggles to mold & prune

- 2 Timothy 4:2: “preach the **Word**; be ready in season and out of season; **reprove, rebuke, and exhort**, with complete patience and teaching.”

Application/Challenge

Allow God to use struggles to mold & prune

- 2 Timothy 4:2: “preach the **Word**; be ready in season and out of season; **reprove, rebuke, and exhort**, with complete patience and teaching.”

2.) *STRUGGLE* to understand the Bible!

Application/Challenge

Allow God to use struggles to mold & prune

- "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ~Philippians 4:6-7

Application/Challenge

Allow God to use struggles to mold & prune

• "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ~Philippians 4:6-7

3.) Pray anew...not for relief, but growth!

The Prayer of Jacob

Genesis 32

⁹ Jacob: “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country ..., that I may do you good,’ ¹⁰ I am not worthy of...steadfast love & all the faithfulness that you have shown ¹¹ Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, ...for I fear him, ¹² But you said, ‘I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand”

The Prayer of Jacob

Genesis 32

⁹ Jacob: “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country ..., that I may do you good,’ ¹⁰ I am not worthy of...steadfast love & all the faithfulness that you have shown ¹¹ Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, ...for I fear him, ¹² But you said, ‘I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand”

Prayed to the God of his fathers; still not his God

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

- ¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
- ²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!”

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

- ¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
- ²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!”

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!”
³And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother ..., ⁵“I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.”

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!”
³And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother ..., ⁵“I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.”

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

- ¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
- ²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!”
- ³And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother ..., ⁵“I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.”
- ⁶“We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are 400 men with him.”

The Plan...of Jacob

Genesis 32

¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him.
²And when Jacob saw them he said, "This is God's camp!"
³And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother ..., ⁵"I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight."
⁶"We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are 400 men with him."

Jacob is implementing his on PLAN!

THE
STRUGGLE

IS REAL

Genesis 32