

THE PLACE OF BLESSING

Gen. 32:29, "He blessed Him there"

Introduction -- unusually glorious places of earth,
for the natural man, the scientific man, the historian,
the theologian, the Christian pilgrim,
the Peniel's of the believer.

I. What was Jacob's blessing in that place?

1. Saved from a great peril, v.11.

"He was afraid of Esau."

2. Forgiven a great wrong -- supplanting, deceiving

3. A great breach healed, Gen. 33:4

4. Won a new name and rank, v.28

He was knighted on the spot.

New name a symbol of new life.

5. Under a fresh anointing -- power with God.
His religious conversion - A turning point in his life.

A. Out of the Lord's nature

B. Out of the Lord's promise

C. Out of the relationship of grace.

II. What was that place of blessing?

1. A place of great trial, v.6,7

Jacob was afraid and distressed.
His real battle was with God - not Esau.

2. A place of humble confession, v.10

3. A place of pleading, v. 11,12,24. Crying, holding on,
"praying for a blessing."

4. A place of communion, v.30

"I have seen God"

5. A place of conscious weakness,

he "halted on his thigh"

God broke his stubborn will and

self-reliant heart.

Humbled and limping, he carried
away in his body the scar of
his conversion.

II. Are there other such places of blessing?

1. Blessing of the chosen in Christ before the earth was created. Eph. 1:3, 4

2. At the cross, the tomb, the throne of Jesus.

Gen. 22:18; Gal.

3. In heavenly places, Eph. 2:6, God "hath quickened us together and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

4. At conversion, Ps. 32:1, 2 "Blessed is the man whose trespass is forgiven."

5. In times of humbling, chastening, testing, James 1:12 "Blessed is the man that endures temptation testing."

6. In times of prompt obedience, Ps. 1 "Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord."

7. At the ordinances of the church. Acts 8:39; Lk. 24:30, 31

IV. How can you find your own place of blessing?

1. Have a consuming desire for God's blessing.

2. Be willing to give up sin.

3. Be willing to have Jesus for your all in all.

A. "There's nae gude done, friend, till ye get to close grips."

B. Tell me, I pray thee, thy name" equals "reveal thyself more intimately to my soul."

4. Be willing to resign yourself to the will of God.

Jacob was too nimble to bend his knees for his father blessing, and it cost him 20 years exile and a shrunk sinew before he obtained the real blessing from God at Peniel.

5. Be willing to serve God in his own way.

CONCLUSION: Be assured that God will help us if we repent, confess, seek pardon, and ask sincerely for his help and forgiveness.

Don't go away without a saving blessing.