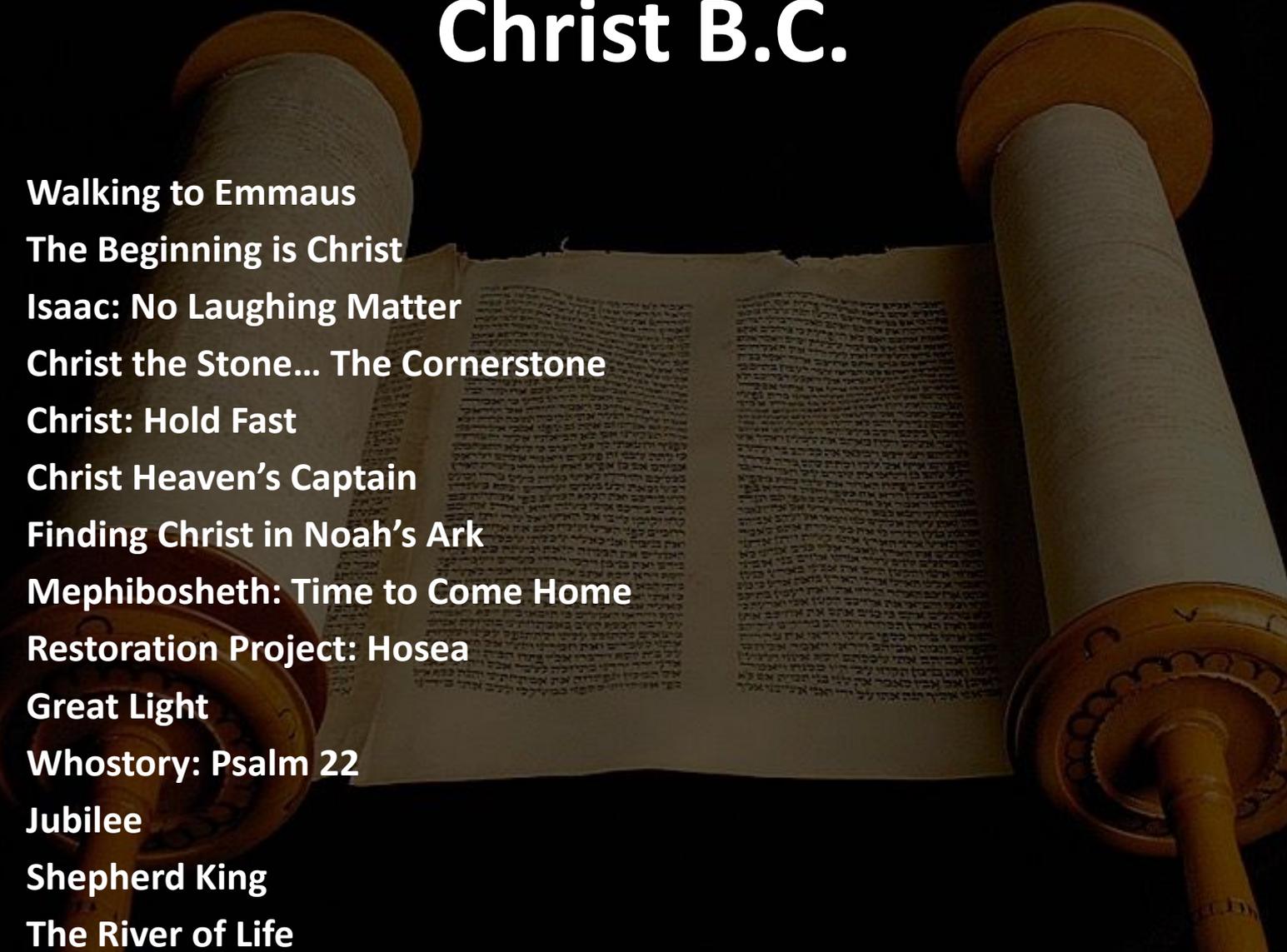


# Christ B.C.



# Christ B.C.



1. **Walking to Emmaus**
2. **The Beginning is Christ**
3. **Isaac: No Laughing Matter**
4. **Christ the Stone... The Cornerstone**
5. **Christ: Hold Fast**
6. **Christ Heaven's Captain**
7. **Finding Christ in Noah's Ark**
8. **Mephibosheth: Time to Come Home**
9. **Restoration Project: Hosea**
10. **Great Light**
11. **Whostory: Psalm 22**
12. **Jubilee**
13. **Shepherd King**
14. **The River of Life**
15. **Joseph: Pictures of Christ**
16. **Christ in Song of Songs**



**Christ B.C 18**

**Christ-Wrestling**

# Genesis 32

**22** The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. **23** He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. **24** And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. **25** When 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. **26** Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." **27** And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."

# Genesis 32

**28** Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.” **29** Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. **30** So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.” **31** The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. **32** Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

# Pretext

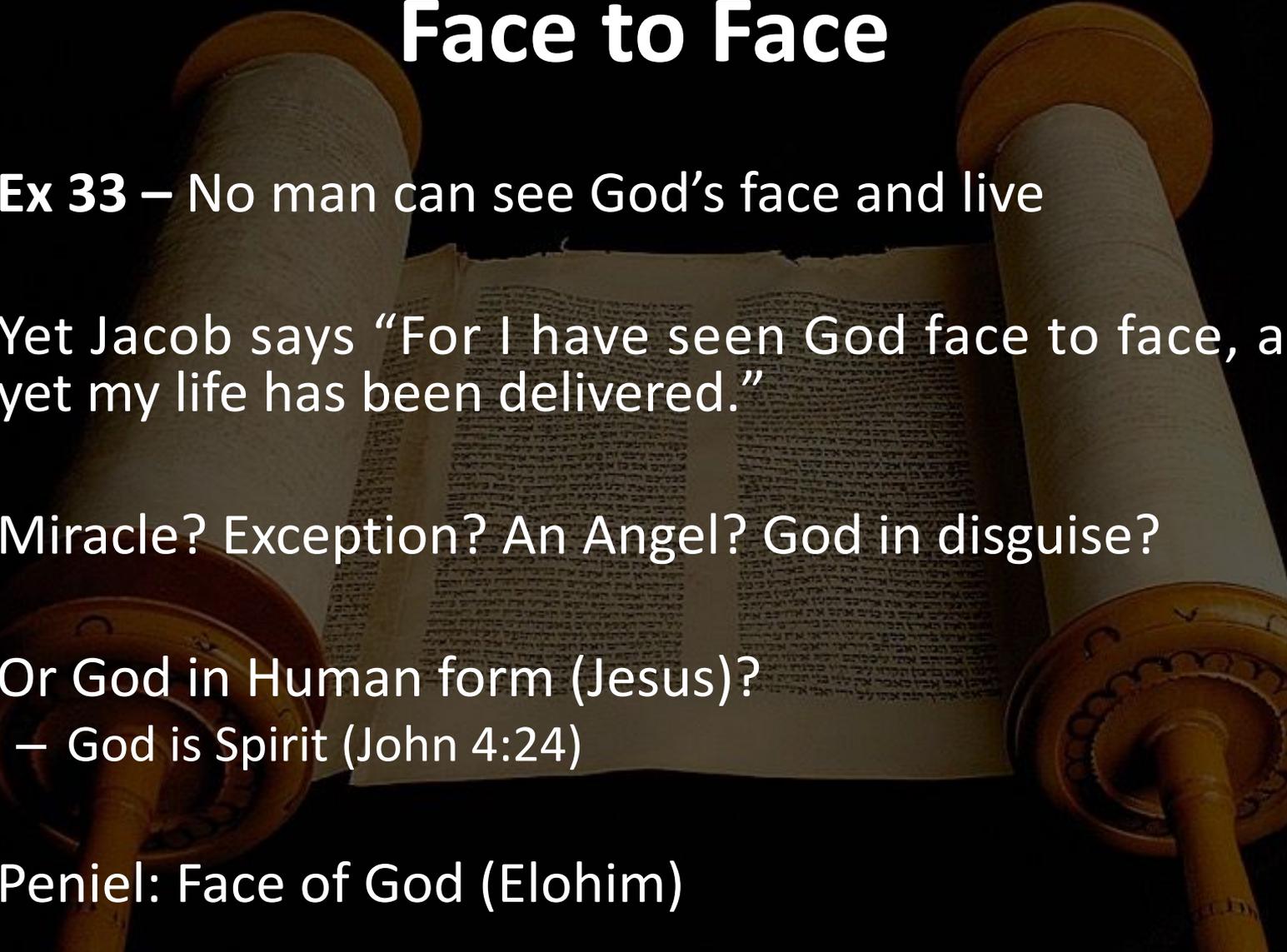
- **JACOB FEARS ESAU**

**Gen 32:11** Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children. **12** But you said, 'I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.'

- He has spent his life wrestling with people and here he is running in fear again

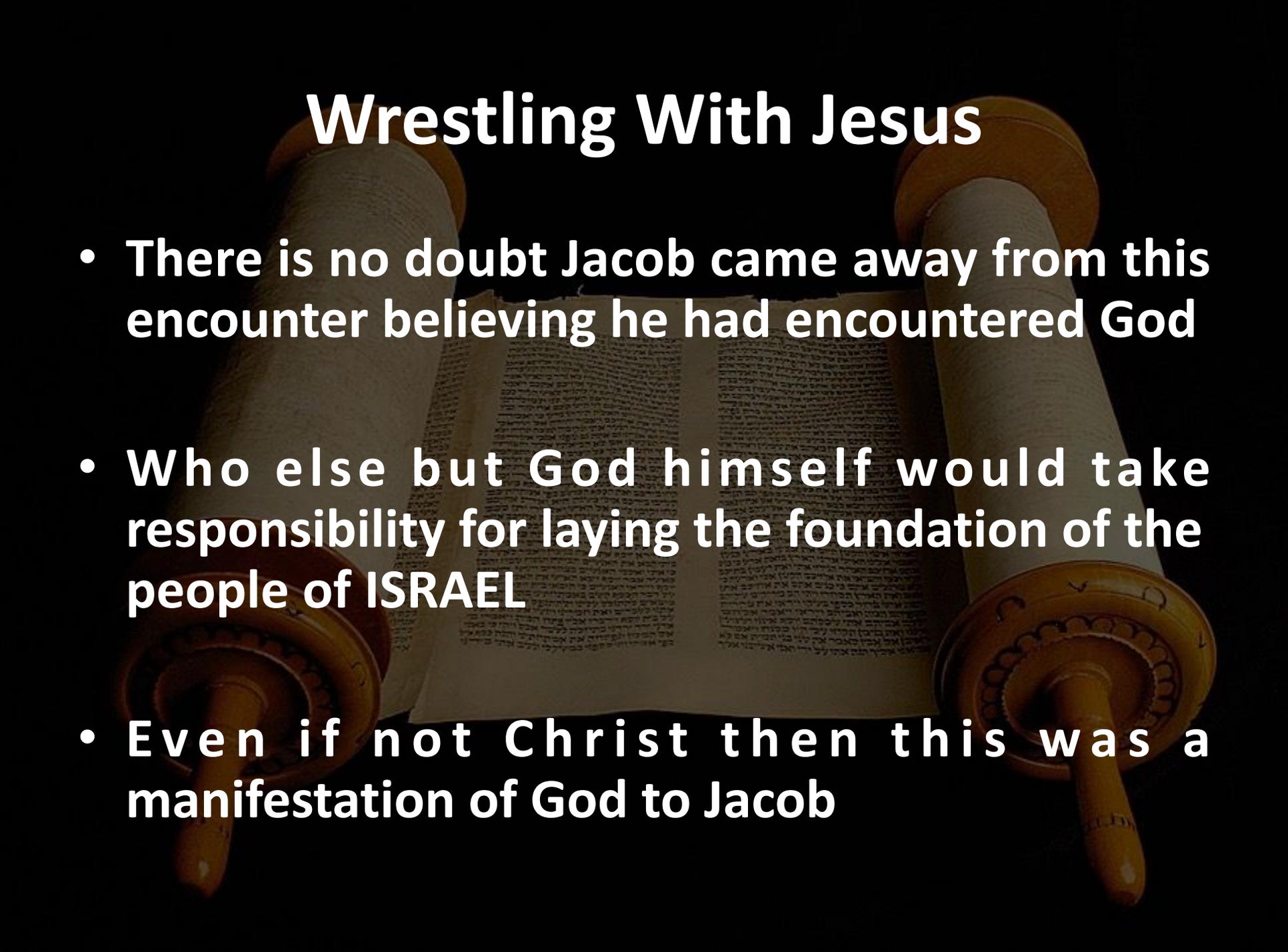
**Prov 29:25** Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

# Face to Face

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, held by two wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have decorative patterns on their ends. The background is dark, making the scroll stand out.

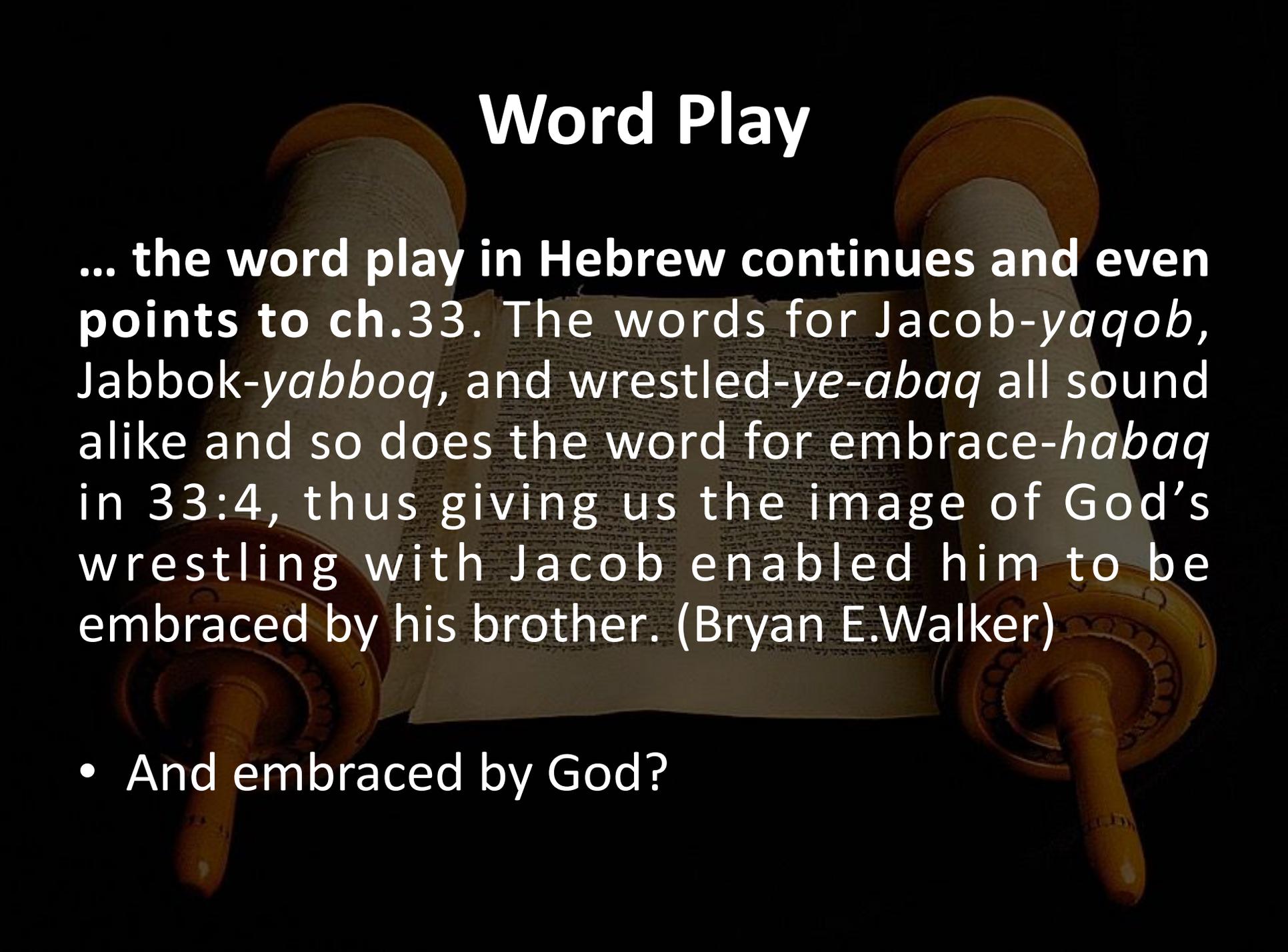
- **Ex 33** – No man can see God’s face and live
- Yet Jacob says “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”
- Miracle? Exception? An Angel? God in disguise?
- Or God in Human form (Jesus)?
  - God is Spirit (John 4:24)
- Peniel: Face of God (Elohim)

# Wrestling With Jesus



- There is no doubt Jacob came away from this encounter believing he had encountered God
- Who else but God himself would take responsibility for laying the foundation of the people of ISRAEL
- Even if not Christ then this was a manifestation of God to Jacob

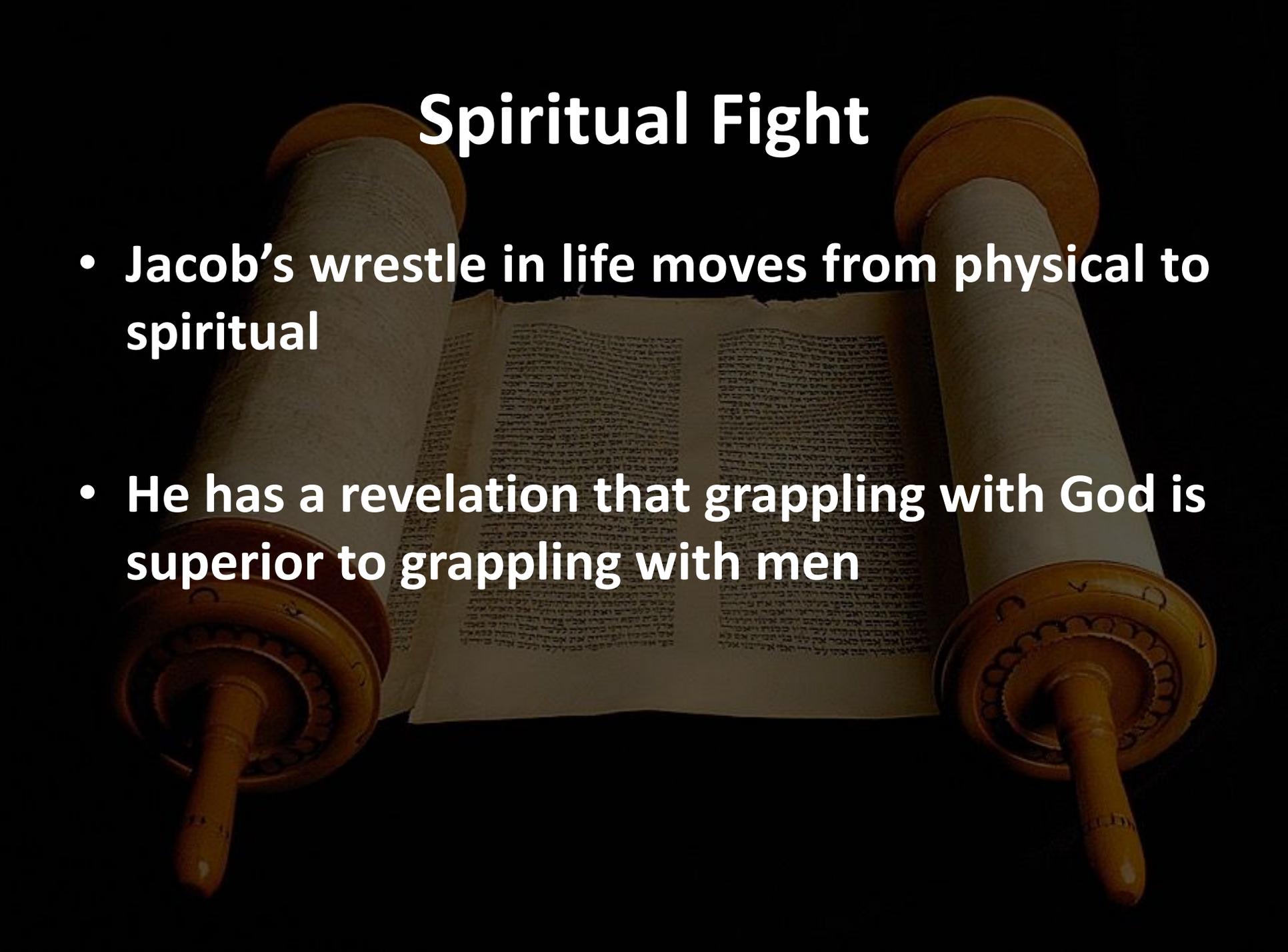
# Word Play



... the word play in Hebrew continues and even points to ch.33. The words for Jacob-*yaqob*, Jabbok-*yabboq*, and wrestled-*ye-abaq* all sound alike and so does the word for embrace-*habaq* in 33:4, thus giving us the image of God's wrestling with Jacob enabled him to be embraced by his brother. (Bryan E.Walker)

- And embraced by God?

# Spiritual Fight

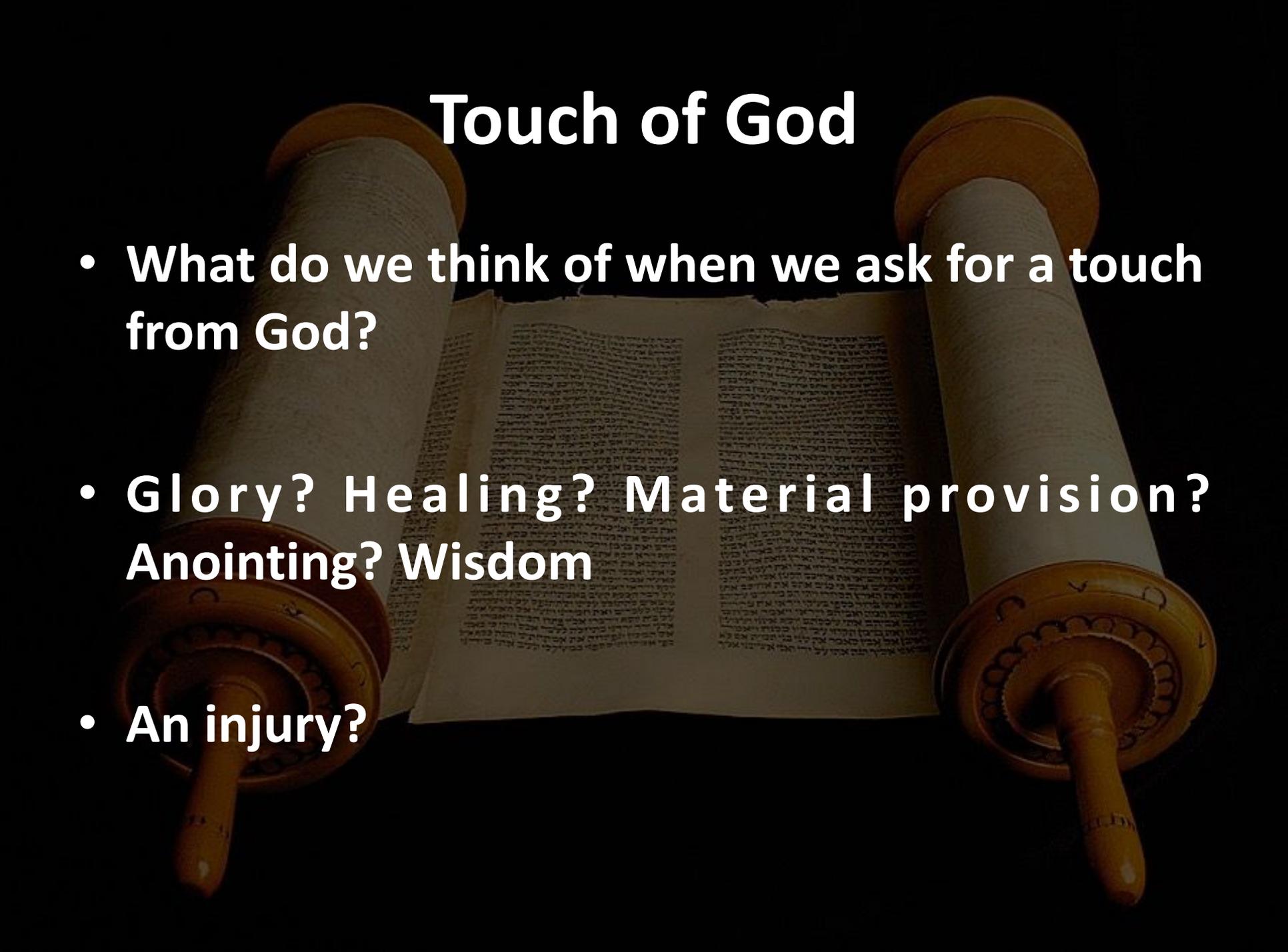
An open scroll of text, likely a Bible, with wooden rollers on either side, set against a dark background. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have decorative patterns on their ends. The background is a solid dark color, possibly black or dark brown.

- Jacob's wrestle in life moves from physical to spiritual
- He has a revelation that grappling with God is superior to grappling with men

# Win Win?

- **‘Can a Christian be Competitive in Sport?’ (J. Pridmore, 2002)**
- **The purest motivation and ethic of sport, especially for the Christian is found in Mutual Striving for excellence’**
  - We make each other the best we can be
- **Iron Sharpens Iron? What better way to be sharpened than to grapple with God?**
  - For Jacob the spiritual meets the physical

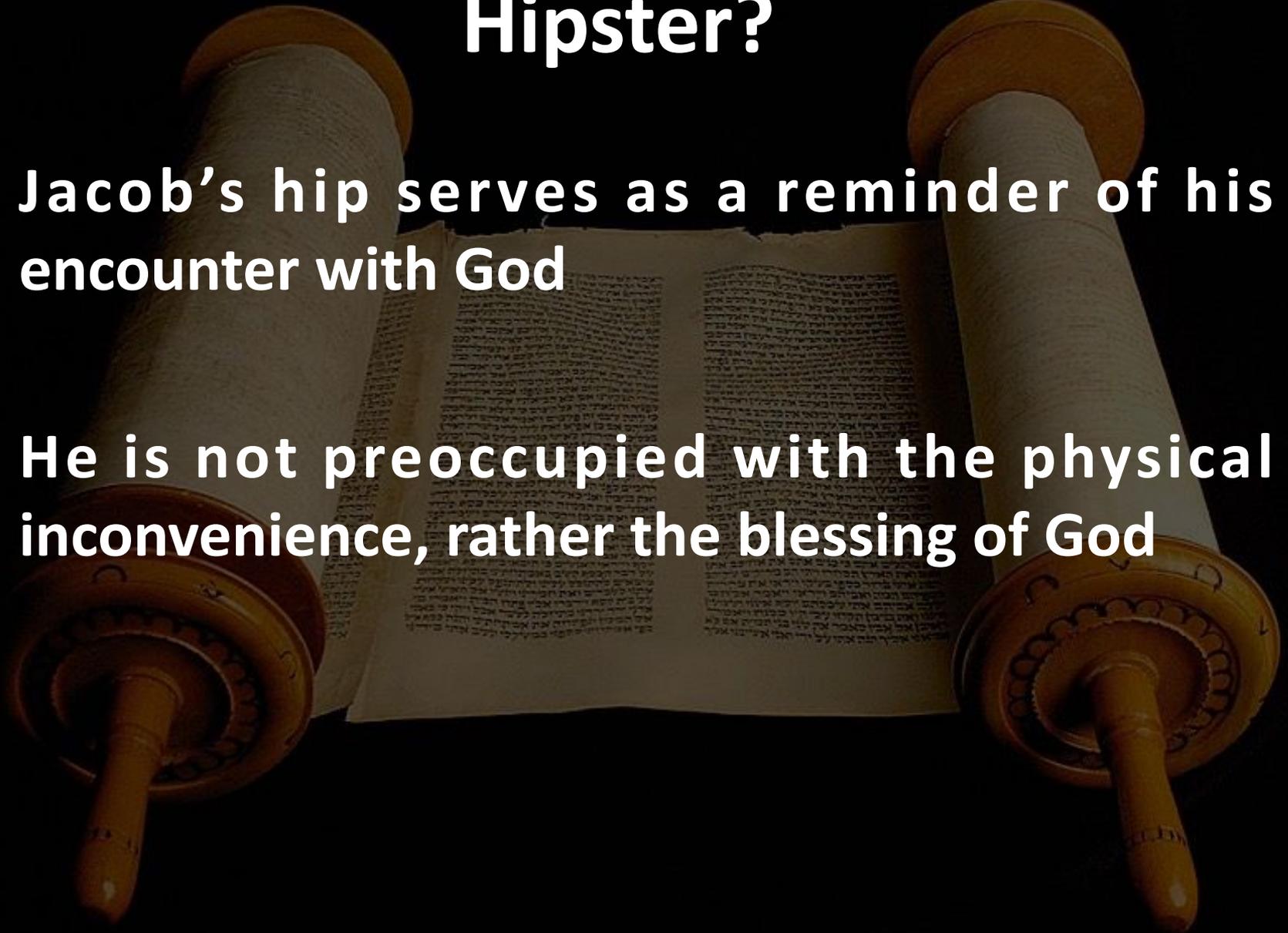
# Touch of God

An open scroll with Hebrew text, likely the Ten Commandments, set against a dark background. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text on each page. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers with decorative patterns on their ends. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the parchment and the wood of the rollers.

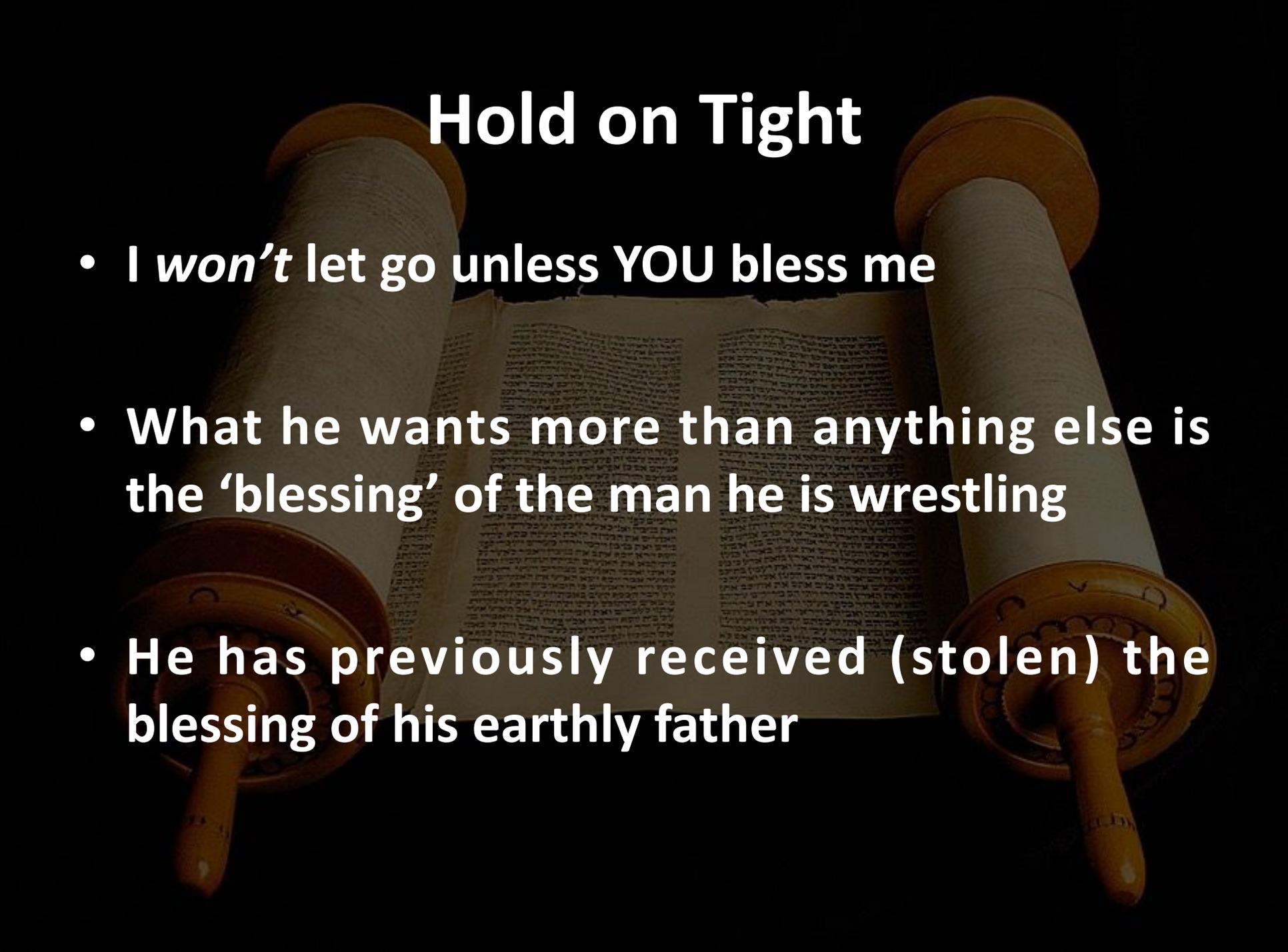
- **What do we think of when we ask for a touch from God?**
- **Glory? Healing? Material provision? Anointing? Wisdom**
- **An injury?**

# Hipster?

- Jacob's hip serves as a reminder of his encounter with God
- He is not preoccupied with the physical inconvenience, rather the blessing of God

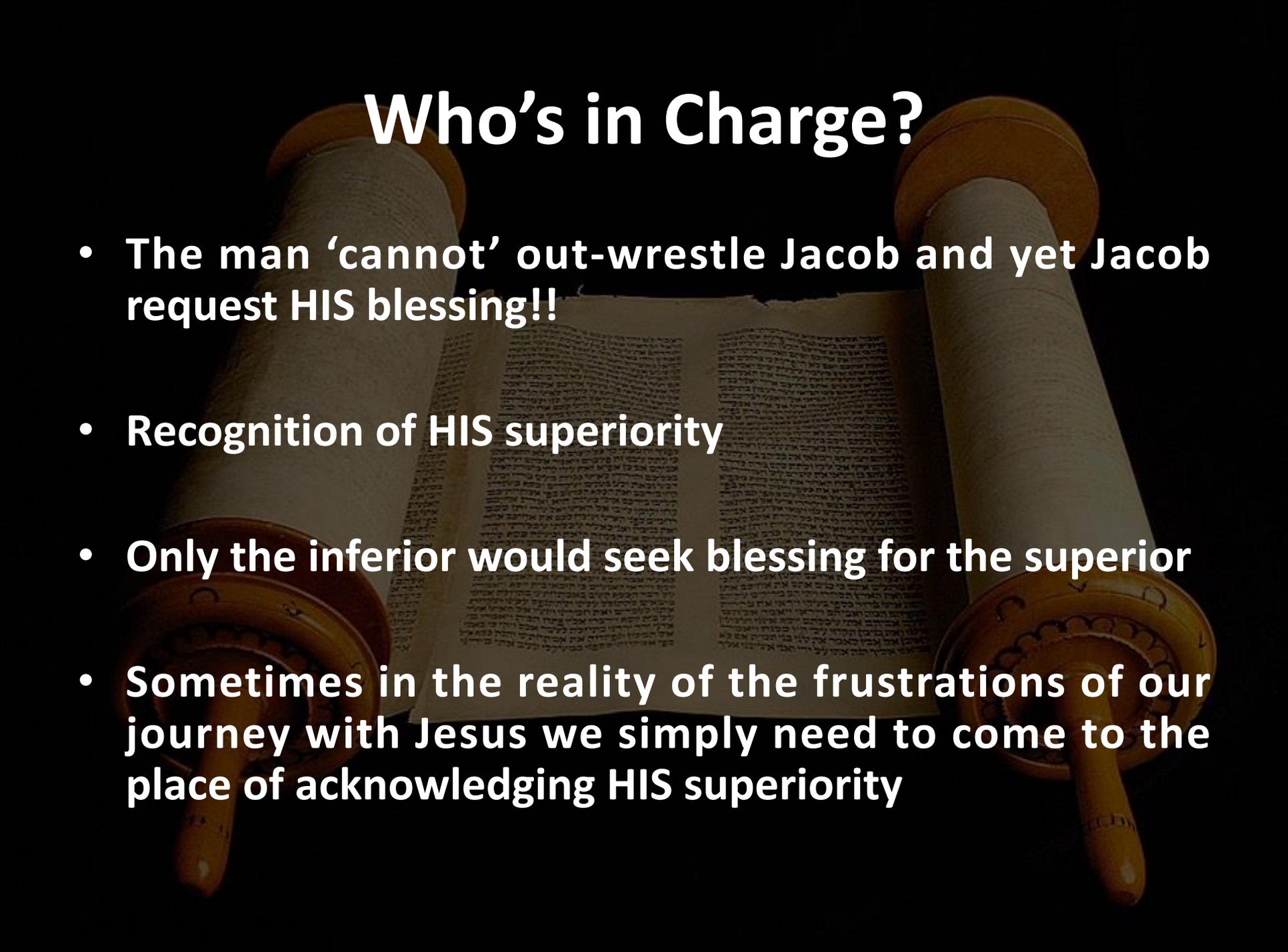


# Hold on Tight

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, resting on wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have a decorative circular pattern on their ends. The background is dark, making the scroll stand out.

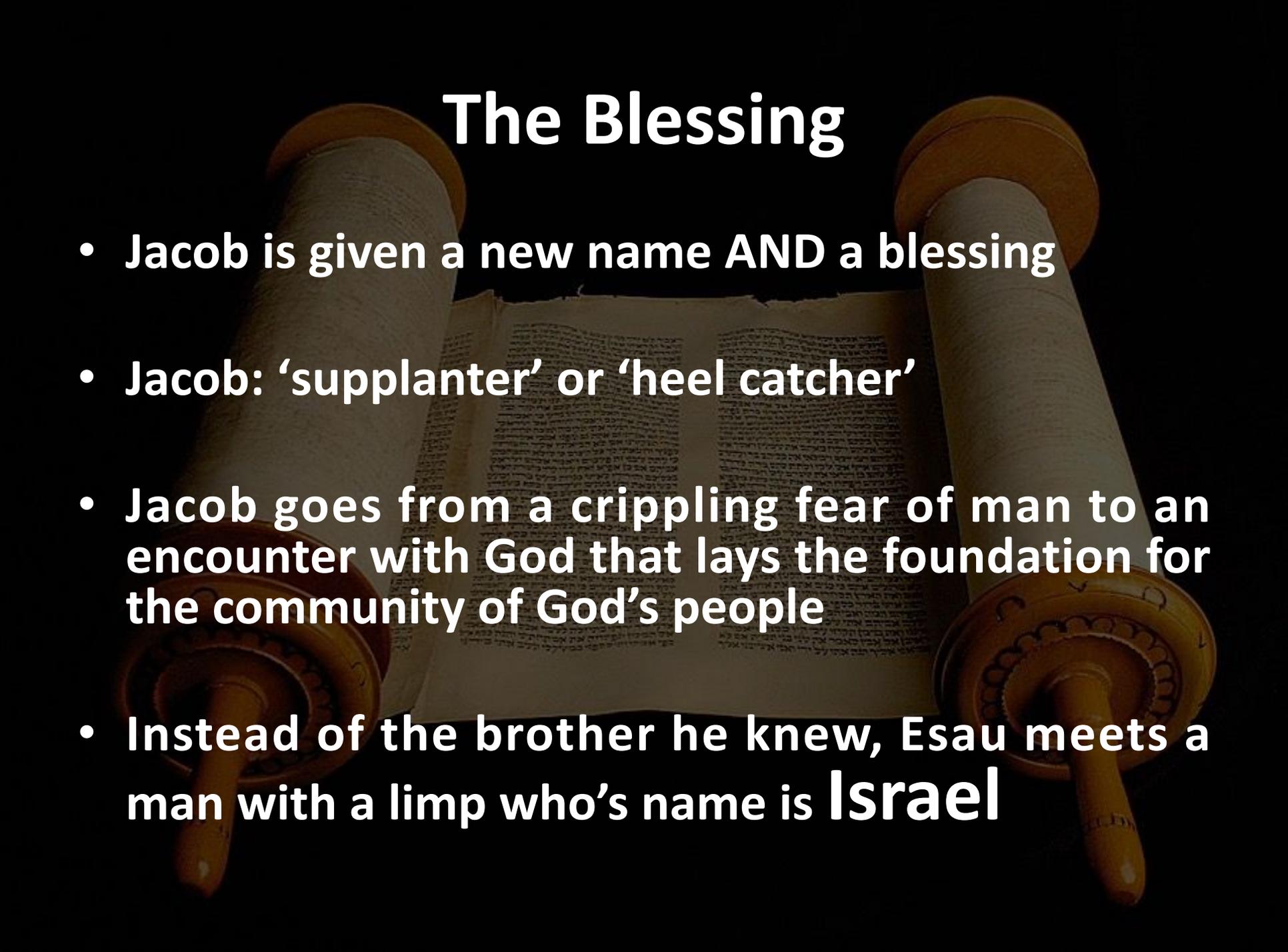
- I *won't* let go unless YOU bless me
- What he wants more than anything else is the 'blessing' of the man he is wrestling
- He has previously received (stolen) the blessing of his earthly father

# Who's in Charge?

An open scroll with Hebrew text, likely a Torah scroll, with wooden rollers and a wooden pointer. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have decorative patterns. The pointer is also made of wood and is positioned at the bottom of the scroll.

- The man 'cannot' out-wrestle Jacob and yet Jacob request HIS blessing!!
- Recognition of HIS superiority
- Only the inferior would seek blessing for the superior
- Sometimes in the reality of the frustrations of our journey with Jesus we simply need to come to the place of acknowledging HIS superiority

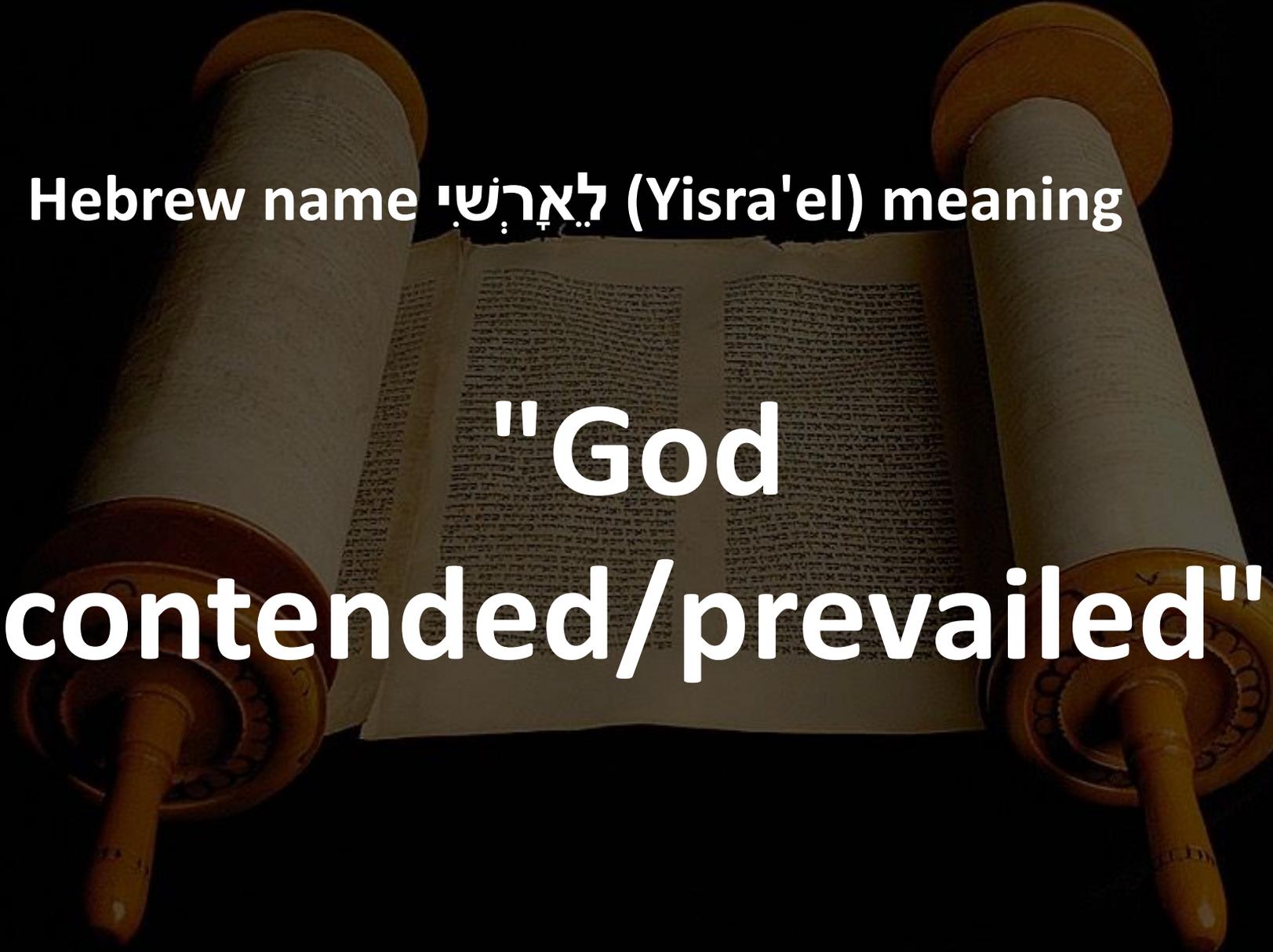
# The Blessing

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, flanked by two wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have decorative patterns on their ends. The background is dark, making the scroll and rollers stand out.

- Jacob is given a new name AND a blessing
- Jacob: 'supplanter' or 'heel catcher'
- Jacob goes from a crippling fear of man to an encounter with God that lays the foundation for the community of God's people
- Instead of the brother he knew, Esau meets a man with a limp who's name is **Israel**

- Hebrew name **לְאֶרְשֵׁי** (Yisra'el) meaning

**"God  
contended/prevailed"**

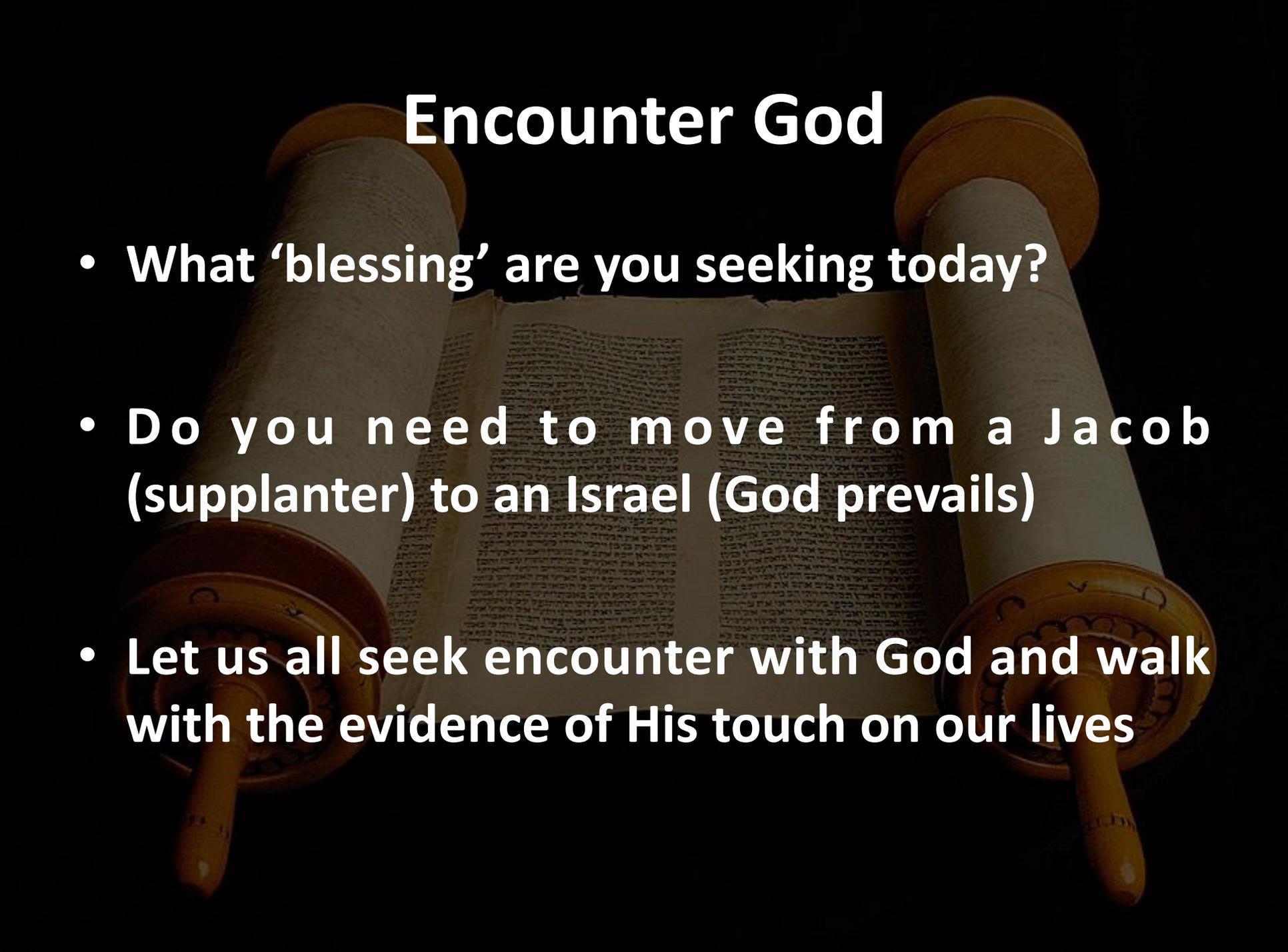


# Our Walk with Christ

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, resting on wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have a decorative circular pattern on their ends. The background is dark, making the scroll stand out.

- We struggle with the flesh
- We give HIM reign in our lives
- Somehow within the combination of struggling and submitting to Christ we come to the place of blessing

# Encounter God



- **What 'blessing' are you seeking today?**
- **Do you need to move from a Jacob (supplanter) to an Israel (God prevails)**
- **Let us all seek encounter with God and walk with the evidence of His touch on our lives**

# References

- Walker, B, E. Mark12 Ministries

