

Torah Cycle 2018-19

Parshah: Vayishlach

(Genesis 32 - 36)

Outline of *Vayishlach*

- Ch.32 – Jacob wrestles with the “angel”
- Ch.33 – Jacob meets Esau
- Ch.34 – The abduction of Dinah
Destruction of Shechem
- Ch.35 – Birth of Benjamin
Death of Rachel
- Ch.36 – Esau’s genealogy

Genesis 32:26-28

Then he said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking."
But he said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."
So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said,
"Jacob." He said, "**Your name shall no longer be
Jacob, but Israel**, for you have striven with God and
with men and have prevailed."

80x

40x

(from this point forward)

Q: After Jacob's name is changed to Israel, why does the Torah continue to call him 'Jacob'?

Q: Why did God change Jacob's name to Israel twice?

Genesis 35:9-10

Then God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-Aram, and He blessed him. God said to him, "**Your name is Jacob; You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.**" Thus He called him Israel.

#1

The God we embrace in the light is
the God we fought in the dark.

Isaiah 45:15

Truly, You are a God who hides Himself, O God of Israel,
Savior!”

The more important a call or action is to our soul's evolution, the more resistance we will feel toward pursuing it.

☞ Steve Pressfield
“The War of Art”

The great thing, if one can, is to stop regarding all unpleasant things as interruptions of one's 'own', or 'real' life. The truth is of course that what we call the interruptions are precisely one's real life – the life God is sending day by day. What one calls one's 'real life' is a phantom of one's own imagination.

☞ C.S. Lewis

#2

We wrestle with God by struggling to know His name.

Exodus 6:1-8

Then **Adonai** said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh, for under compulsion he will let them go, and under compulsion he will drive them out of his land.” God spoke further to Moses and said to him, “I am **Adonai**, and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as El Shaddai, but by My name – יהוה – I did not make Myself known to them. I also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they sojourned. Further-more I have heard the groaning of the sons of Israel, be-cause the Egyptians are holding them in bondage, and I have remembered My covenant. Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, ‘I am **Adonai**, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am **Adonai** your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you to the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and I will give it to you *for* a possession; I am **Adonai**.’”

#3

**We see God's face
when we learn His name.**

1 Chronicles 16:10-11

Glory in His holy name. Let the heart of those who seek Adonai be glad. Seek Adonai and His strength. Seek His face continually.

Psalm 24:3-6

Who may ascend into the hill of Adonai? And who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and has not sworn deceitfully. He shall receive a blessing from Adonai and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face – even Jacob.

Psalm 105:4

Seek Adonai and His strength. Seek His face continually.

#4

Brokenness precedes victory.

How strange that we grasp mere knowledge through a message much faster than we learn reality through discipline! Once we hear, we remember. But we may be disciplined ten times and still wonder why. The day discipline accomplishes its purpose is the day you really “see” the truth and enter into its reality.

*∞ Watchman Nee
“The Release of the Spirit”*

Traits of one who has been broken:

- a) He becomes approachable.
- b) He becomes highly sensitive to the spirit of others.
- c) He is ready for corporate life.
- d) He is easily edified.

#5

When you win the contest, God wins you.

Job 42:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12

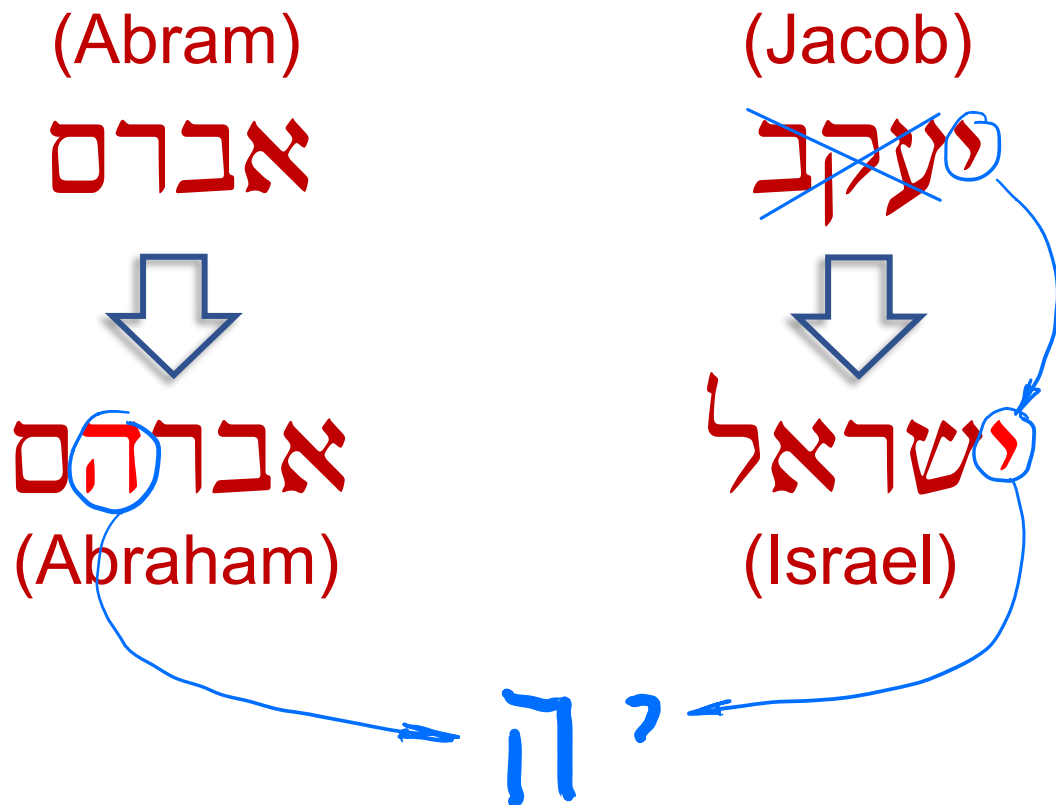
Then Job answered Adonai and said, "I know that You can do all things and that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted... I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I retract, and I repent in dust and ashes." ...Adonai restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and Adonai increased all that Job had twofold... Adonai blessed the latter *days* of Job more than his beginning...

#6

We receive a new name
when we see God's face.

Genesis 32:28

He said, "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel, for you have **striven** (שָׂרָה) with God and with men and have prevailed."



רע (ra) "evil"
←

final
tzaddi

↑

tzaddi
"righteous"

→