

# (Genesis) Genesis 32 Introduction

by J. Vernon McGee

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*Genesis 32 is a turning point in Jacob's life, where God deals with him and tests his faith, teaching him to rely on God's strength, not his own.*

**Duration:** 3:38

**Scripture:** Proverbs 3:11-12, Isaiah 40:29, Matthew 7:1, Romans 8:28, Hebrews 12:6, 2 Peter 2:7-8

**Topics:** "Genesis"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher focuses on the life of Jacob and how God dealt with him. Jacob, despite his flaws and living in the flesh, was still God's chosen man. The preacher emphasizes the importance of not judging others' faith based on appearances. Jacob's life was filled with trials and testing, particularly during his time working for his uncle Laban. However, through these experiences, Jacob learned valuable lessons and grew in his faith.

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## Transcript

Now, I trust that you have your Bible open to Genesis 32. This is one of the great chapters of the Bible. Have I said that before? Well, I think so.

There are great many great chapters of the Bible and this is one of them. This is actually the high point in the life of Jacob and can be called the turning point in his life. Now, this is not his conversion by any means.

This man, in spite of the fact that he was living in the flesh, and believe me, he was living in the flesh, why, he was still God's man. That's the reason that you and I are told to be very careful today about judging folk, about whether they're Christian or not. There are a lot of people that don't look like they're Christian.

I'm sure that they are, or I'm almost sure that they are, but I don't know, and that's in the hands of the Lord. They just don't act like it, that's all, and they give no evidence. And this man, Jacob, gave none at all except these very faint instances of where God appeared to him and he did respond in a way.

But now this man, who is God's representative and is God's witness in the world, and it's been a bad witness, but he can't keep that up, and so God's going to deal with him. To tell the truth, God is going to break his leg to get him, but God will break his leg in order to get him. And the Lord disciplines us.

Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth. That's his method. He disciplines in that way.

And we have already seen that Lot didn't look like he was a child of God, but he was. Peter says he vexed his righteous soul. And I tell you, he certainly was put through the fire, only he escaped the fire of Sodom and Gomorrah, but the Lord put him through the fires of testing.

And now that is Jacob's experience. He's got his college degree, the College of Hard Knocks. Uncle Laban was the president and dean of the school, and he had graduation, and this boy Jacob gave his valedictorian, and it was a pitiful thing.

Twenty years it took him to get his degree, and he says, I certainly work for it. And the requirements, old Laban changed them ten times. That means every two years while he had a new contract with Uncle Laban, and it was always to his disadvantage.

This is the experience of this man. Now we come to this test, and God's going to have to deal with him because he's going to represent God, and God will deal with him. Now, we come here to this 32nd chapter, and God will move in on him.

I'd like to write over this chapter, as I've written verses of scripture elsewhere, over certain chapters we've come to is this one. It is Isaiah 40, 29. He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

That's the experience, now, of this man.

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