

# JACOB

A person wearing a hat and a backpack stands on a rocky mountain ridge, looking out over a vast, hazy mountain range. The word "JACOB" is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters. The person is positioned in front of the letter "C".

A JOURNEY — OF TRANSFORMATION



# Two Natures: Flesh vs. Spirit

Esau was a man of the flesh and Jacob became a man of the Spirit.



# The Nature of the Flesh

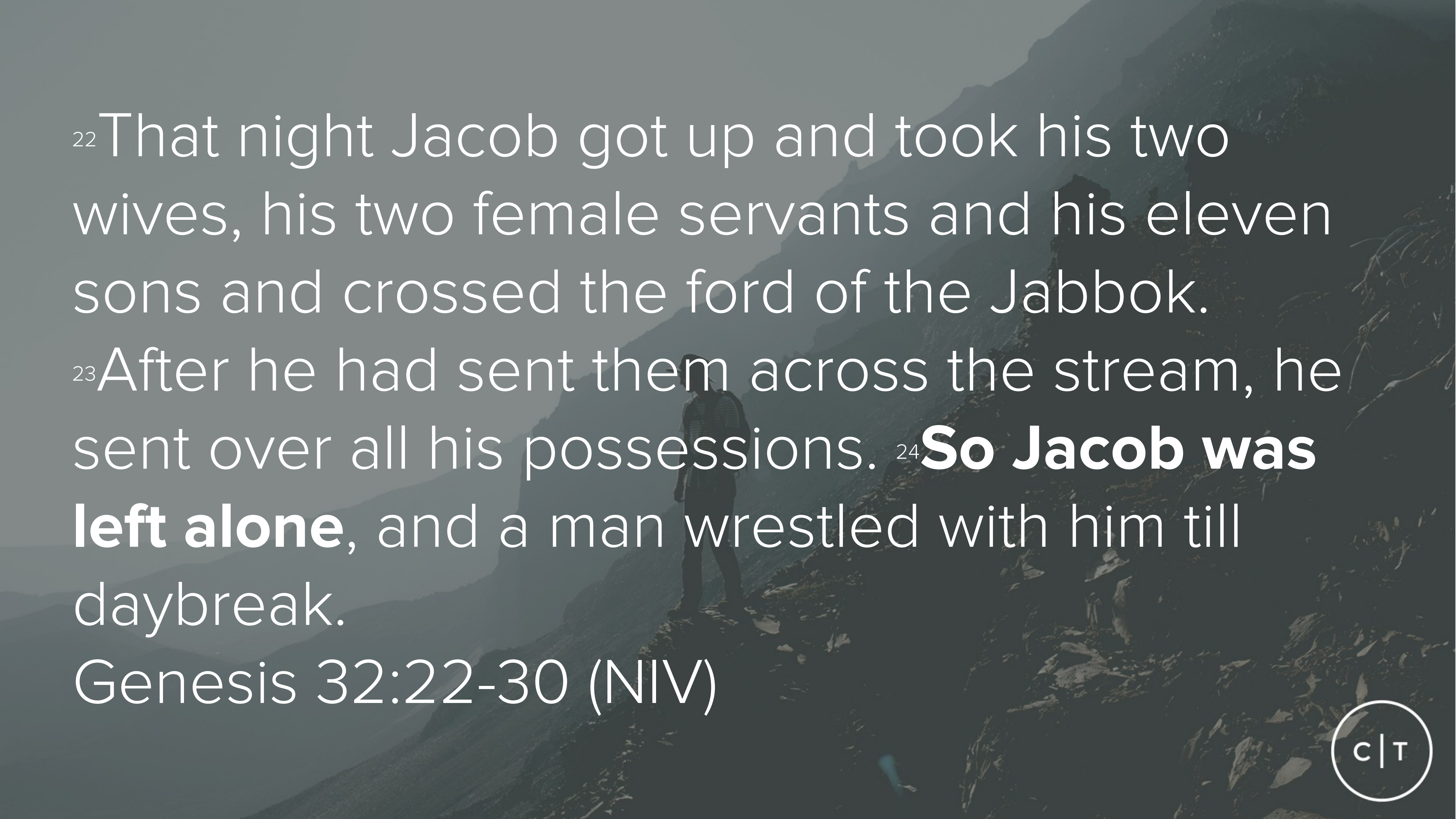
1. Values Appetites over the Blessings of God
2. Values the Present over the Future
3. Values the Temporal over the Eternal



# The Nature of the Spirit

1. Pursues True Blessing
2. Waits for True Fulfillment
3. Chooses the Eternal over the Temporal



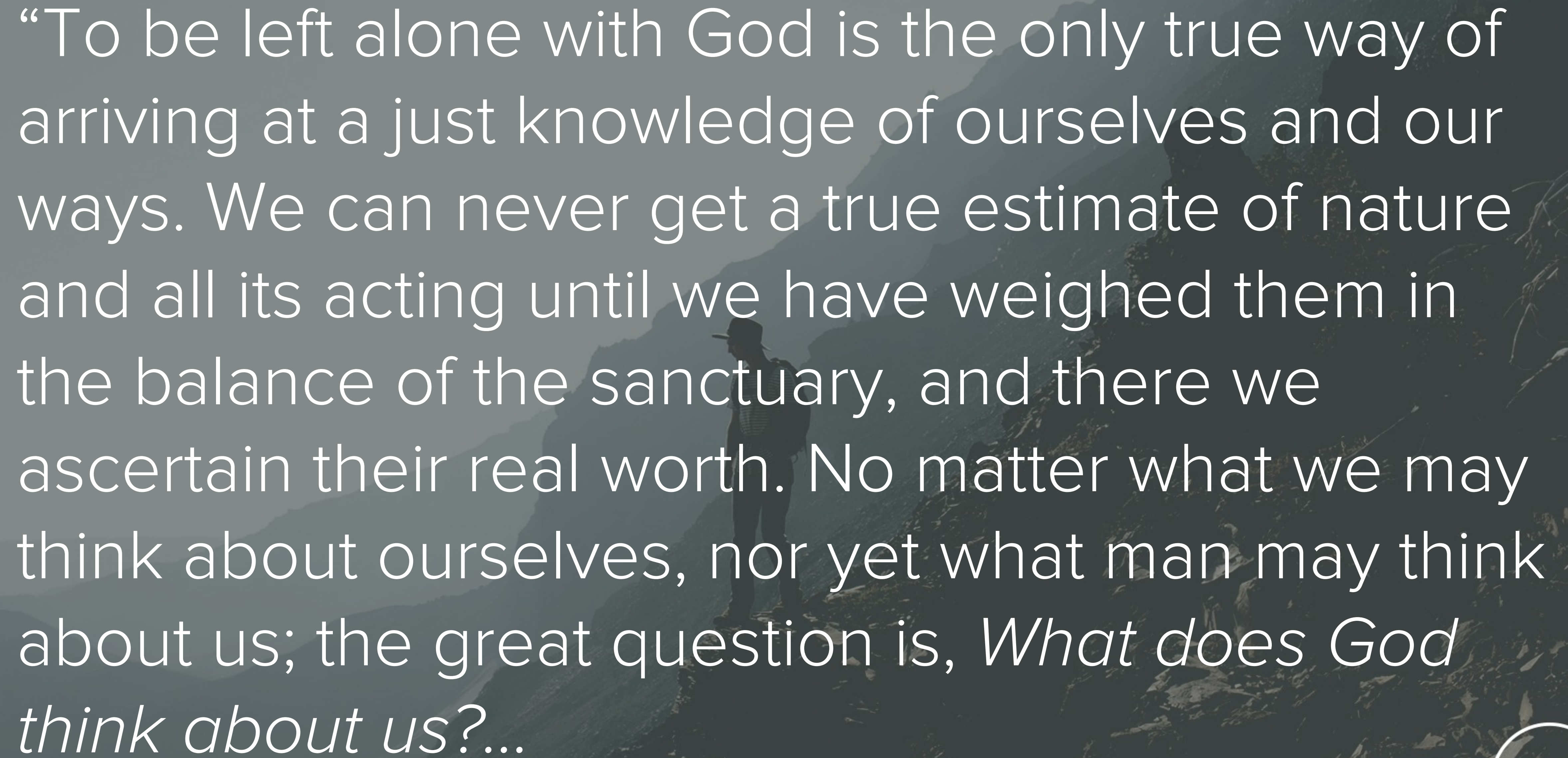
A person is standing on a rocky mountain ridge, looking out over a valley. In the background, a stream flows through a valley, and mountains are visible in the distance. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

<sup>22</sup>That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.

<sup>23</sup>After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. <sup>24</sup>**So Jacob was left alone**, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.

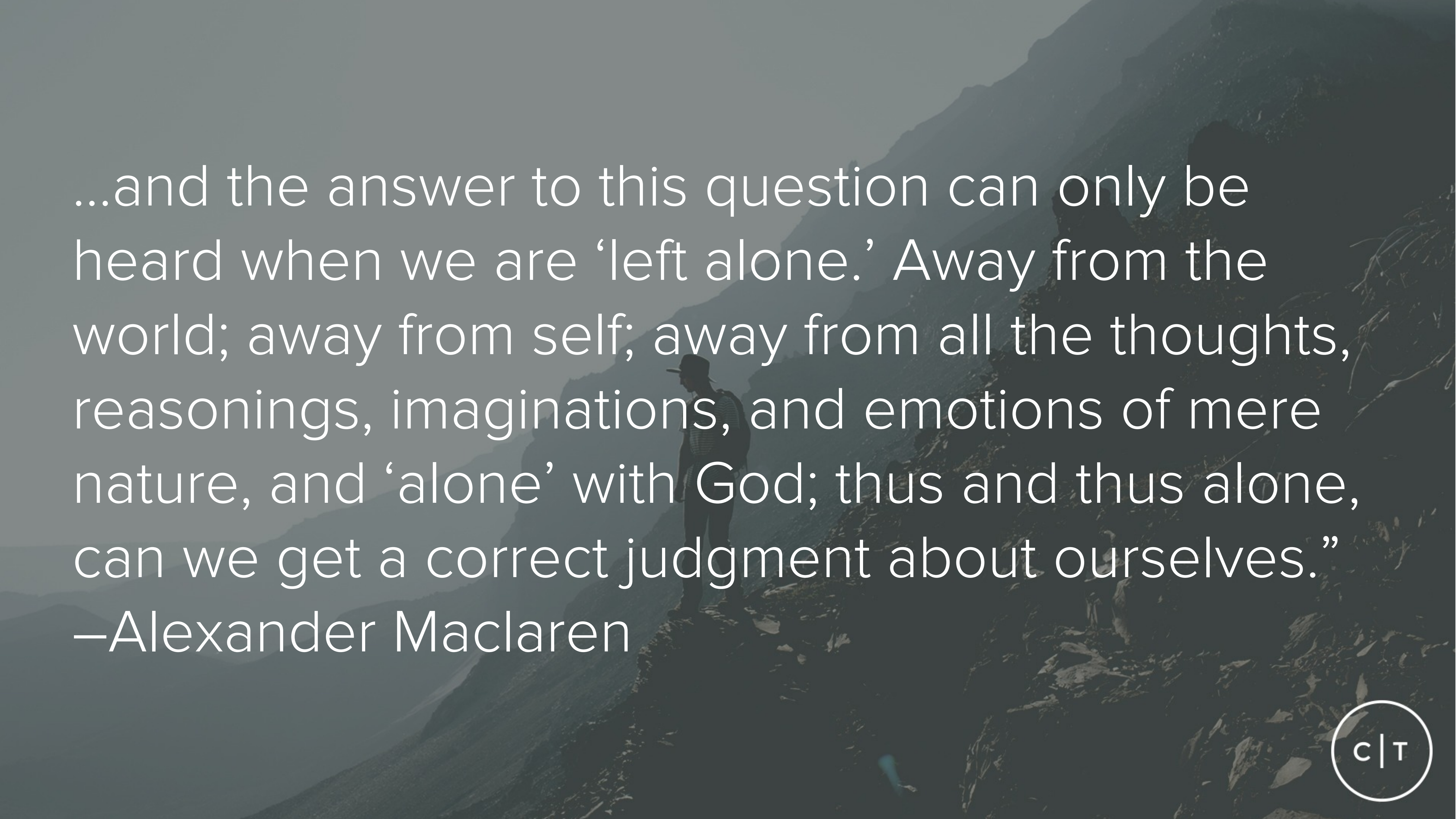
Genesis 32:22-30 (NIV)



A person wearing a hat and a backpack stands on a rocky mountain ridge, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dawn or dusk. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

“To be left alone with God is the only true way of arriving at a just knowledge of ourselves and our ways. We can never get a true estimate of nature and all its acting until we have weighed them in the balance of the sanctuary, and there we ascertain their real worth. No matter what we may think about ourselves, nor yet what man may think about us; the great question is, *What does God think about us?*...

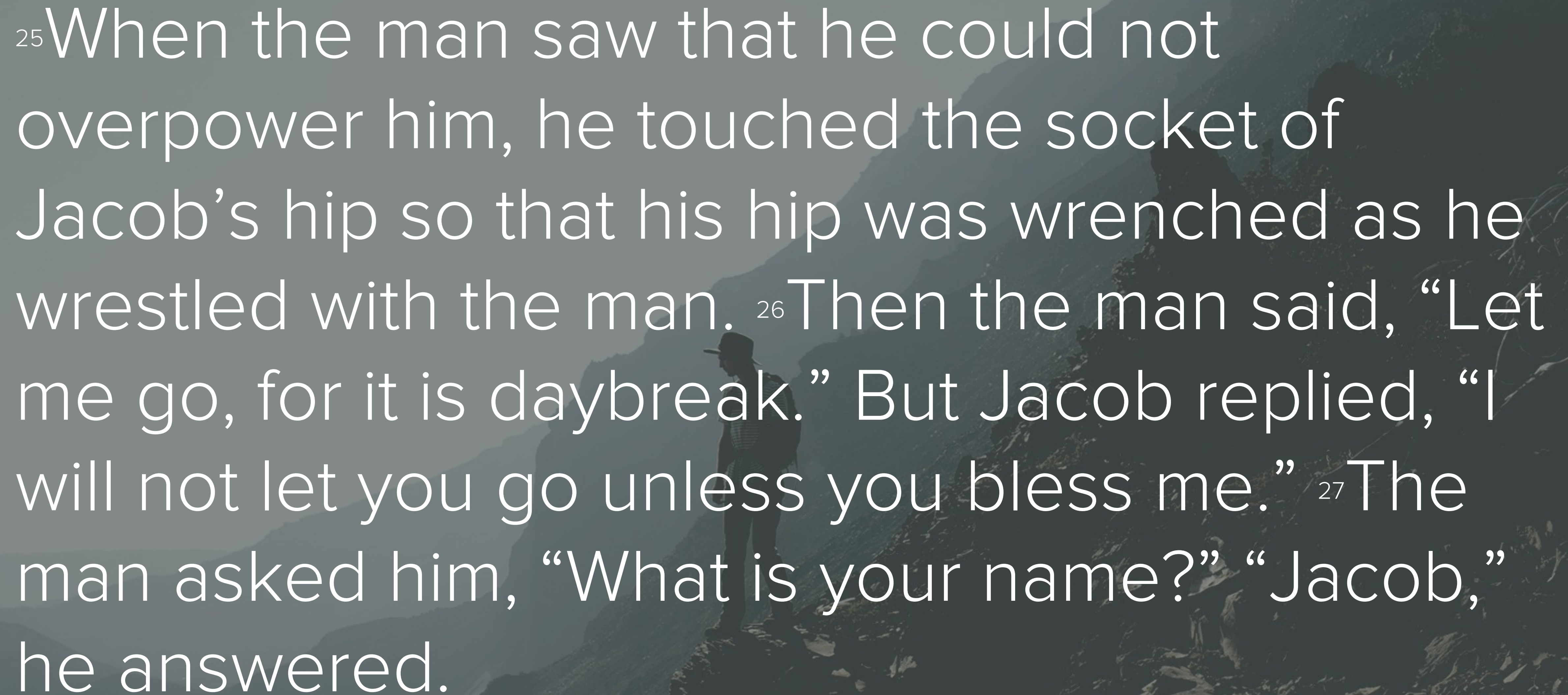


A person wearing a hat and a backpack stands on a rocky mountain ridge, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The person is silhouetted against the lighter sky. The background shows rolling hills and mountains under a soft, hazy light.

...and the answer to this question can only be heard when we are ‘left alone.’ Away from the world; away from self; away from all the thoughts, reasonings, imaginations, and emotions of mere nature, and ‘alone’ with God; thus and thus alone, can we get a correct judgment about ourselves.”

—Alexander Maclaren

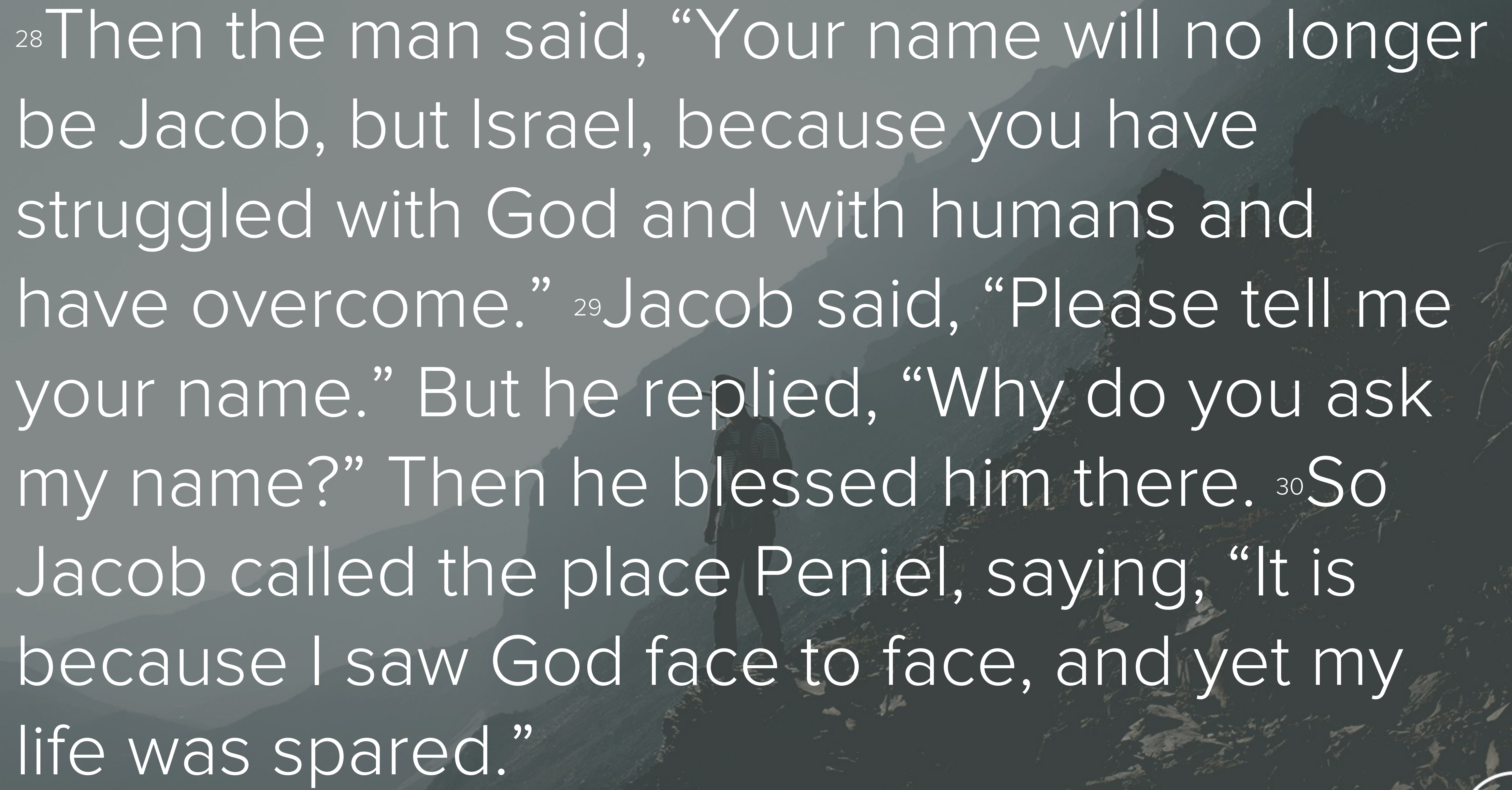


A person wearing a hat and a backpack stands on a rocky mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dawn or dusk, with soft light filtering through the mist. The person is positioned in the center-left of the frame, looking towards the right.

<sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. <sup>26</sup>Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.

Genesis 32:22-30 (NIV)



A person is standing on a rocky mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape. The person is wearing a backpack and a hat. The background shows rolling hills and mountains under a soft, hazy sky. The overall tone is contemplative and majestic.

<sup>28</sup>Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.” <sup>29</sup>Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.” But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.”

Genesis 32:22-30 (NIV)





# Phase 2 of Transformation: **LEARNING TO WRESTLE**





# When We Wrestle: God Breaks Us Down

When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.  
Genesis 32:25 (NIV)



# When We Wrestle: God Breaks Us Down

God makes us more dependent on Him before He transforms and blesses us.





# When We Wrestle: God Builds Us Up

Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.”  
But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you  
bless me.”

Genesis 32:26 (NIV)





A person is standing on a rocky mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy mountain range. The person is wearing a backpack and a hat. The background shows layers of mountains fading into the distance under a soft, hazy sky. The overall tone is contemplative and inspiring.

# **When We Wrestle: God Builds Us Up**

God delights in faith that refuses to let go.



# When We Wrestle: God Changes Us

The man asked him, “What is your name?”

“Jacob,” he answered. Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.”

Genesis 32:27-28 (NIV)