

Genesis 32:24-25 (NET)

So Jacob was left alone. Then a man wrestled with him until daybreak. [25]

When the man saw that he could not defeat Jacob, he struck the socket of his hip so the socket of Jacob's hip was dislocated while he wrestled with him.

Genesis 32:26-27 (NET)

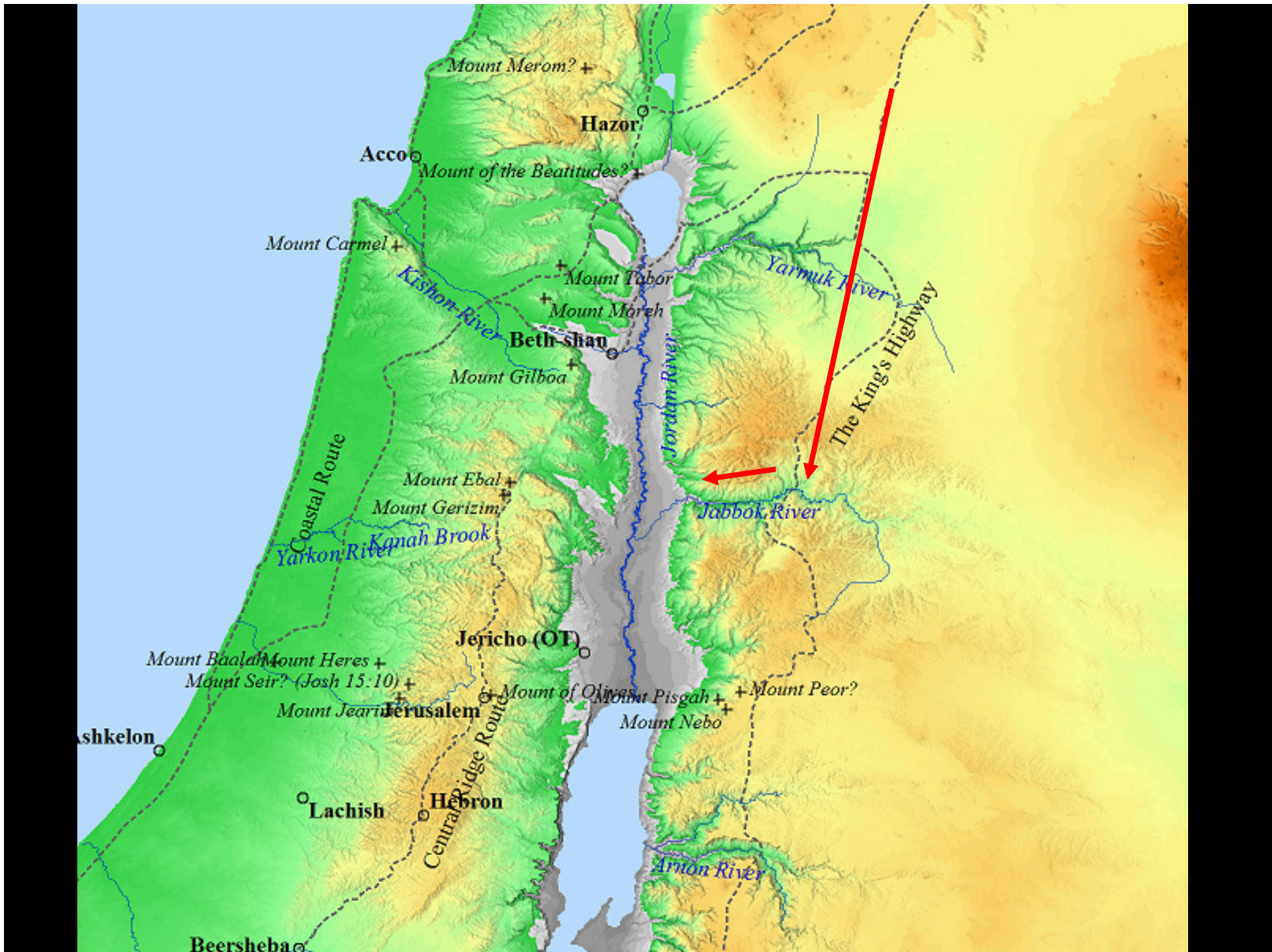
Then the man said, “Let me go, for the dawn is breaking.” “I will not let you go,” Jacob replied, “unless you bless me.” [27] The man asked him, “What is your name?” He answered, “Jacob.”

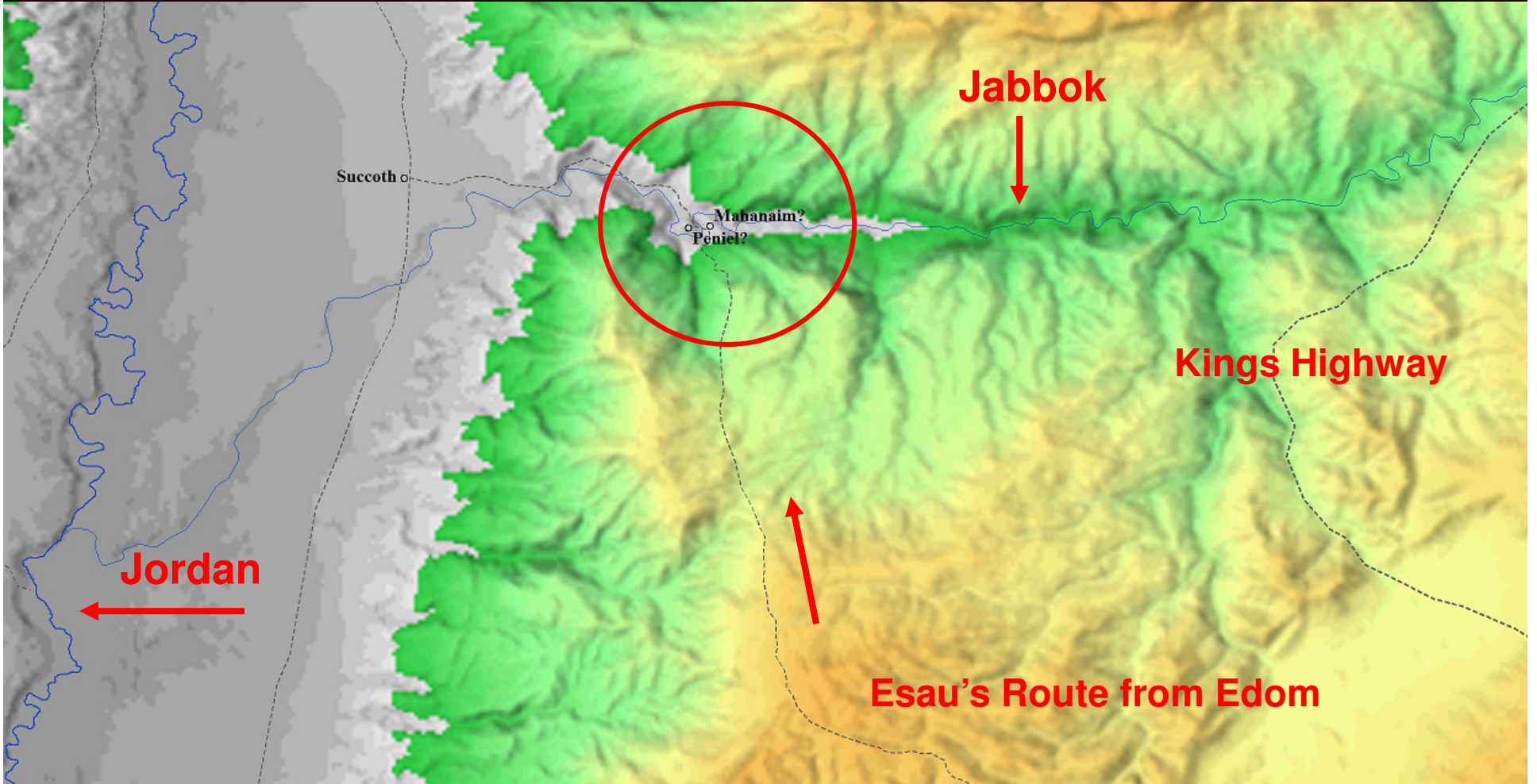
Genesis 32:28 (NET)

**“No longer will your name be Jacob,”
the man told him, “but Israel, because
you have fought with God and with
men and have prevailed.”**

What is in a NAME?

Genesis 32:22-32





Succoth

Mahanaim?
Peniel?

Jabbok

Kings Highway

Jordan

Esau's Route from Edom

It was **NOT** from proud dominance that Jacob asked for blessing, **but with tears.**

His request came when he was at the end of himself, helpless.

"I will not let you go unless you bless me"
was a tear-choked plea.

Hosea 12:3-4 (NET)

In the womb **he ATTACKED his brother;**
in his manly vigor he struggled with God.

[4] He struggled with an angel and

PREVAILED;

he wept and begged for his favor.

He found God at Bethel, and there he
spoke with Him!

Genesis 27:35-36 (NIV)

... "Your brother came **DECEITFULLY** and took your blessing." [36] Esau said, “

Isn't he rightly named Jacob?

He has **deceived** me these two times:

He **took** my birthright, and now he's **taken** my blessing!" ...

A Name Change...

- Implied a change in **CHARACTER**
- Meant Submitting to **AUTHORITY**

Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV)

For the WORD of God is living

and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **IT JUDGES** the **THOUGHTS** and **ATTITUDES** of the heart.

[13] **NOTHING** in all creation is **HIDDEN** from God's sight.

Everything is **UNCOVERED** and **LAI**
BARE before the eyes of him to whom we must
give account.

Genesis 32:12 (NIV)

But you have SAID, ‘

I will surely make you prosper and
will make your descendants
like the sand of the sea,
which cannot be counted.”

James 1:22-23 (NET)

But be **sure** you **LIVE OUT** the message and **do NOT merely listen** to it and so deceive yourselves. [23] For if someone **merely listens** to the message and **does NOT live it out**, he is like someone who gazes at his own face in a mirror.

James 1:24-25 (NET)

For he gazes at himself and then goes out and immediately forgets what sort of person he was. [25]

But the one who peers into the

perfect law of liberty and

fixes his ATTENTION there,

and does **NOT** become a

FORGETFUL LISTENER but one who

LIVES IT OUT - he will be blessed

in what he does.

God took the **initiative**
in WRESTLING with Jacob,
not vice versa.

God was bringing Jacob
to the END of himself.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NET)

So then, if anyone is **IN Christ**,
he is a new CREATION;
what is old has passed away
look, what is **NEW has come!**

Jacob...

- **LET GO** of everything
- **HUNG** onto God
- **REFUSED** to let go

The days of **failure through his own power** were ending,
and the days of **VICTORY through weakness** had begun.

Hughes

QUESTIONS

1. Why is it so hard for us to admit what we are really like?
2. Why is it important to Remember we need to stop struggling and fighting God?
3. What happens when we CLING to God ALONE?