

Wrestled with God

Purpose: The Bible often talks about struggles, fights and wrestling. I believe we today can learn from those wrestling matches, and see the struggles of our own lives in these Biblical characters and their circumstances.

H6617 pāthal *paw-thal'* A primitive root; to *twine*, that is, (literally) to *struggle* or (figuratively) *be* (morally) *tortuous*:—(shew self) froward, shew self unsavoury, wrestle.

H5319 naphtûl *naf-tool'* From **H6617**; properly *wrestled*; but used (in the plural) transitively, a *struggle*:—wrestling.

Gen 30:8 And Rachel said, With great **wrestlings** have I **wrestled** with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.

Gen 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there **wrestled** a man with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he **wrestled** with him. ²⁶And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. ²⁷And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob. ²⁸And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. ²⁹And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is* it *that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. ³⁰And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

G2076 esti *es-tee'* Third person singular present indicative of **G1510**; he (she or it) *is*; also (with neuter plural) they *are*:—are, be (-long), call, X can [-not], come, consisteth, X dure for awhile, + follow, X have, (that) *is* (to say), make, meaneth, X must needs, + profit, + remaineth, + wrestle.

2 Sam 22:27 With the pure thou wilt show thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt show thyself **unsavoury**. ²⁸And the afflicted people thou wilt save: but thine eyes *are* upon the haughty, *that* thou mayest bring *them* down.

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Proverbs 8:8 All the words of my mouth *are* in righteousness; *there is* nothing **froward**^{H6617} or perverse in them.

2 Peter 3:16-18

As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable **wrest**, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own **destruction**. ¹⁷Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. ¹⁸But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

G4761 strebloō *streb-lo'-o* From a derivative of **G4762**; to *wrench*, that is, (specifically) to *torture* (by the rack), but only figuratively to *pervert*:—**wrest**.

Fight:

Joshua 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye **fight**^{H3898}.

Ps 56:2 Mine enemies would daily swallow *me* up: for *they be* many that **fight** against me, O thou most High.

H3898 A primitive root; to *feed* on; figuratively to *consume*; by implication to *battle* (as *destruction*):—devour, eat, X ever, fight (-ing), overcome, prevail, (make) war (-ring).

John 18:36

Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants **fight**^{G75}, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

Acts 5:39 But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to to **fight**^{G2314} **against God**^{G2314}.

G2314 From G2316 and G3164; an *opponent of deity*:—to **fight against God**.

G3164 Middle voice of an apparently primary verb; to *war*, that is, (figuratively) to *quarrel*, *dispute*:—fight, strive.

Acts 23:9 And there arose a great cry: and the scribes that were of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, We find no evil in this man: but if a spirit or an angel hath spoken to him, let us not **fight**^{G2313} **against God**^{G2313}.

2 Tim 2:5 And if a man also **strive**^{G118} for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he **strive**^{G118} lawfully.

G118 PèëYù From Tèëïò (a *contest* in the public lists); to *contend* in the competitive games:—strive.

1Ti 6:12 – **Fight**^{G75} the good **fight**^{G73} of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

2Ti 4:7 - I have fought a good **fight**^{G73}, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

G73 Pāpí From G71; properly a place of *assembly* (as if *led*), that is, (by implication) a *contest* (held there); figuratively an *effort* or *anxiety*:—conflict, contention, fight, race.

G75 From G73; to *struggle*, literally (to *compete* for a prize), figuratively (to *contend* with an adversary), or generally (to *endeavor* to accomplish something):—fight, labor fervently, strive.

Heb 10:32 - But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great **fight**^{G119} of afflictions;

G119 Tèëçóéò From G118; a *struggle* (figuratively):—**fight**.

Romans 7:14-23 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. 16 - If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that *it is* good.

17 - Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 18 - For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not. 19 - For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 - Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 21 - I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 - For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 - But I see another law in my members, **warring**^{G497} against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

G497 From G473 and G4754; (figuratively) to *attack*, that is, (by implication) *destroy*:—**war against**.

Rom 7:24 O **wretched**^{G5005} O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 - I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

G5005 From the base of G5007 and a derivative of the base of G3984; *enduring trial*, that is, *miserable*:—wretched.

G3984 ḍāsñá From the base of G4008 (through the idea of *piercing*); a *test*, that is, *attempt*, *experience*:—assaying, trial.

Eph 6:11 - Put on the whole **armour** of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we **wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. ¹³Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

G3823 palē *pal'-ay* From pallō (to *vibrate*; another form for **G906**); *wrestling*:—+ **wrestle**.