- 3) The messengers go and find that Esau is already left with 400 men because he heard that Jacob is coming.
- 4) The messengers go back and tell him that they couldn't find Esau, but he is coming with 400 men.
- 5) Jacob is scared and divides his family and possessions into two groups.
  - The reason he did this was so that if Esau attacked and wiped out half of them, the other group might escape.
- 6) After he did that, he wants to placate Esau.
  - i) He took five groups of animals.
  - ii) He put a servant with each one.
  - iii) He said to the first servant, "You lead the way and leave a space between you and the second."
  - iv) He said to the second, "Leave a space between you and the third" and so on he spoke to the rest of the servants. In the same way,
  - v) To the first servant, he said, "As soon as you see Esau, you say, Esau here's a nice present for you. See all these sheep. These are from Jacob. He's coming behind."
  - vi) The next servant comes and is to say, "See all these goats. These are a present from Jacob."
  - vii) He was hoping that because of these gifts, Esau would be disposed to receive him.
- 7) So he sent the servants on ahead.
- He moves over to Penuel.
- That night he sends his family and possessions over the brook of Jabbok
- b. The Penuel experience (32:24-32)
  - The Lord appeared to him in human form.
  - Jacob wrestles with the Lord until dawn.
  - When dawn came, the Lord said, 'Let me go. It's dawn."
  - 4) Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."
  - 5) And so the Lord blessed him.
  - 6) This was the time when his name from Jacob to Israel and when the Lord touched Jacob's hip so that he had a limp the rest of his life
  - 7) Jacob named this place Penuel which means "the face of God."
  - 8) The reason he called it Penuel is because he said, "I saw God face to face and yet the Lord spared my life."