

Jacob Wrestled With The Angel

"But Jacob stayed behind by himself, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak."

Genesis 32:24 The Message

Jacob wrestled with the angel
struggling through the painful night,
till the man demanded freedom
from the grip which held him tight.
Jacob wrestled for a blessing,
and it changed his given name
leaving Jacob humble, limping,
never more to be the same.

Face to face yet still surviving
Jacob met the truth he knew;
once a cheat and clever liar,
grace remade his life anew.
But God's blessing reached beyond him
to the children yet to be.
Ours a God who loves the future
shared in one great family.

When our faith is filled with struggle
as we wrestle through our nights,
may we trust that our opponent
is none other than The Light.
And that morning brings a blessing--
freeing truth about ourselves.
Though we limp through life's encounters
grace will shape our nobler selves.

Words: R. Frederick Crider ©2014 Scripture: Genesis 32:22-32 (RFC ref. *Hymns14.8.7*)

Suggested Tune: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813* 87.87 D Nettleton
("ComeThouFountOfEveryBlessing" #400 UMH)