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A religion of mere moral requirements, in my experience, just leaves people in a continuous seesaw of deflation and inflation, with a strong undercurrent of denial and delusion ... I have yet to see mere moral behavior enlighten anyone. - Richard Rohr, "Native and Celtic Spirituality: Initiation"

Genesis 32.22-28

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Luke 4.1-13

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Hollywood evolved a highly ironic version of the success story, Redemption Plots, in which protagonists pursue values that were once esteemed— money, renown, career, love, winning, success – but with a compulsiveness, a blindness that carries them to the brink of self-destruction. They stand to lose, if not their lives, their humanity. They manage, however, to glimpse the ruinous nature of their obsession, stop before they go over the edge, then throw away what they once cherished. This pattern gives rise to an ending rich in irony ... the protagonist sacrifices her dream, a value that has become a soul-corrupting fixation, to gain an honest, sane, balanced life ...the protagonist either refuses to act on his or her obsession or throws away what he once desired. He or she wins by losing. - Robert McKee, Story, p 126-127

Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly. - Matthew 11.28-30, ©NIV