

Living A Kingdom Lifestyle

Pray Like Jabez

The prayer of Jabez is not a **magic** formula.

1. The prayer of Jabez is a truth God wants to remind us or reinstate **prayer** in the Church and or our kingdom lifestyle.

We are not going to start in verses 9-10 because we need to understand the context of Jabez's words in this prayer.

1 Chronicles 4:1

The sons of Judah were Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal.

1 Chronicles 4:1-2

The sons of Judah were Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal. ²And Reaiah the son of Shobal begot Jahath, and Jahath begot Ahumai and Lahad. These were the families of the Zorathites.

- Now hold your excitement – weren't those first two verses exciting? It gets even better.

1 Chronicles 4:3

³These were *the* sons of the father of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, and Idbash; and the name of their sister was Hazeleponi;

- I did not know their sister Hazel got a **pony**.

1 Chronicles 4:4

⁴and Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer was the father of Hushah. These were the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah the father of Bethlehem.

1 Chronicles 4:5

⁵And Ashhur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah.

1 Chronicles 4:6

⁶Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hopher (that's a great name – Hopher), Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah.

1 Chronicles 4:7-8

⁷The sons of Helah were Zereth, Zohar, and Ethnan; ⁸and Koz begot Anub, Zobebah, and the families of Aharhel the son of Harum.

1 Chronicles 4:11-12

¹¹Chelub the brother of Shuhah begot Mehir, who was the father of Eshton. ¹²And Eshton begot Beth-Rapha, Paseah, and Tehinnah the father of Ir-Nahash. These were the men of Rechah.

- Reason I did that because I want you to know it keeps **going**.

Question: How many of you when reading through the Bible, when coming to the “begat's” section – you glossed over it?

Here is the background

- 1 Chronicles 4 is the genealogy of the Tribe of **Judah**.
- This genealogy starts 1 Chronicles chapter 1 verse 1 – it starts with **Adam**.
- The genealogy goes through chapter 9.
- **9** chapters and **500** names.
- It starts with Adam and goes through David's **grandchildren**.

Adam was created **4000** BC

Noah was born **2500** BC

Abraham was at **2000** BC

Moses was about **1500** BC

David was about **1000** BC

* So this genealogy covers around **3000** years.

9 chapters and 3000 years in the **middle**, verse 9 of chapter 4 is stated:

1 Chronicles 4:9a – Ezra wrote Chronicles

9 Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers...

Church: He has stated Isaac, Jacob, Solomon, David – all the **biggies!**

- Also, these are the **only two** verses in the Bible about Jabez.

2. There is one other verse that mentions the city of Jabez – Theologians believe Jabez was so **blessed** they named a city after him.

1 Chronicles 4:9

9 Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore *him* in pain."

3. Jabez – **pain** – the root of the word, Jabez – means **sorrow**.

1 Chronicles 4:10

¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested.

- Ezra said the end of verse 10: “...So God granted him what he requested.”

Here is my statement:

- Your name is your **destiny**.
 - Jabez's mother gave him the **destiny** of sorrow or pain.
4. What I am telling you is after 2020 or past, God can change your destiny. God is simply waiting for you to ask and live a **kingdom** lifestyle.

Let's look at prayer

- A. Oh, that you would **bless** me indeed.

Jabez is asking God to bless him! Some of us believe that God wants to bless us – but, we never **ask** Him.

5. Satan tells you, don't ask God to bless you because that's a **selfish** prayer.

James 4:2

²You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

- We must in this new year, get out of the emotion that says, "It's wrong to ask God to bless you."

Satan will give you a million reasons not to live out your destiny:

- You're not **worth** it.
- You don't pray and read your Bible **enough**.
- You still have this **terrible** sin in your life.
- You can't ask till you become **perfect**.
- You are **selfish**.

6. It is God's will and His desire to bless you. He is simply waiting for you to ask and He has chosen prayer to be the **vehicle** to do so and travel in.

Matthew 7:7-8

⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

7. Pride keeps us from asking and asking in prayer is **opposite** of pride.

I studied everything you could study to understand what it means to be blessed.

The definition of blessed is: "to be set apart for success, happiness, and prosperity" - it is a divine **enabling** by God Himself.

Jabez asks "that you would bless me indeed" → indeed – a **whole bunch**.

B. **Enlarge** my territory.

Question: What is your territory?

Answer: It's **everywhere** you go and **everything** you do.

What you are saying is: "I want to be the best person in my territory I can be"

What you are asking for is divine **direction** to be the best.

Example: You go to the grocery store and the cashier says to you: Can you pray for me? Your territory has just **expanded** by God.

C. That Your **hand** would be with me.

- This is the **dependence** part of the prayer.

My thought: God's hand needs to be on you!

Jabez prayer:

- The first is divine **enabling**
- The second is divine **direction**
- The third here is divine anointing and **power**

Acts 11:21

²¹ And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

* So it all depends whose hands it is in.

8. Your worth is so much **more** when God's hand is upon you.

D. And that you would **keep** me from evil

This is a brilliant strategy for maintaining blessing – why: because blessing is also a **temptation**.

- You don't really get tempted until you have **something** to be tempted with.
- When you receive the hands of God (power and anointing), **temptation** arrives.

Remember: keep me **from** evil – not through evil

Matthew 6:13

¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

He says help me not to be anywhere **close** to evil.

1 Corinthians 6:18

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

- Doesn't say overcome it; it says flee (**run**) from it. Get away as far as possible from evil.

9. You don't want to experience, be around, or see **evil**.

Conclusion of that – live a kingdom lifestyle being **caught up** in God.

E. That I might not cause **pain**

- We all have a **past**.
- We all in a time of our lives have caused pain in others (usually evil manifested)
 - What you **said**
 - What you **did**
 - What you thought – which produced **offences** and **unforgiveness**

Satan and sin brings devastation in other lives:

1 Chronicles 4:10

¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

* Stay away from evil so you won't cause **pain**.

* Pray this over me and others:

1 Chronicles 4:10

¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

** Jabez began in his birth causing **pain** to his mom.

He changed – the rest of his life, he was known to be more **honorable** than all the other heroes in the Old Testament → that could be you or that's you if you walk in Jabez's prayer.