

GOD, BLESS ME INDEED AND ENLARGE MY TERRITORY

QUESTION: WHO IN HERE HAS READ THE BOOK THE PRAYER OF JABEZ?

THE SMALLEST SCRIPTURE BUT MIGHTY

The prayer itself is very tiny but packed with a valuable testimony of the understanding and loyalty that Jabez had to God. Look at how Jabez asked God to enlarge his territory. He wanted more influence, responsibility and opportunities to be used for God's purposes. Be ready when you pray this prayer.

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 - THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain." Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would bless me indeed and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me and keep me from the evil one." And God granted his request.

The Prayer of Jabez is not magic and it is not selfish. It is a prayer that is an expression of your heart to God's. Let's take a look into the heart attitude of Jabez by looking at 5 distinctives of this prayer.

This prayer is very personal and intimate.

Matthew 21:22 says, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

SHARING TIME: God's blessing warehouse. Are you receiving or are feeling left out?

SHARING TIME: WHAT STOPS US FROM PRAYING SPECIFIC PRAYERS.

Genesis 24:12 – READ

The prayer does not ask for small provisions, but for abundant blessing.

The prayer is not time specific. Finally, this is not a weak wish.

Exodus 14:14 says, Moses tells the children of Israel, “The Lord will fight for you, you only need to be still.”

THE PRAYER FOR BLESSING

1 Thessalonians 5:17 says, “Never stop praying.” Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Do you want God’s blessings so much that you ask with hunger and urgency? The large and small blessings that surround us come from God. When you ask God to bless you a lot, you are inviting Him to engage in His favorite activities. After all, we are commanded in the Bible to ask God for everything.

Luke 18:1-8 – The Persistent Widow

LET YOUR HAND BE WITH ME

Jabez was calling on God for protection, provision and strength. .

KEEP ME FROM EVIL THAT I MAY NOT CAUSE PAIN

“Keep me,” he was asking God to act in protection. But, his motive for not wanting evil in his life was so profound when he said, “That I may not cause pain.”

Ephesians 6:1-10 - READ

QUESTION: When was the last time you cried out to God to send more protection and reinforcements into your situation?

WHAT IT MEANS TO PRAY FOR PROTECTION

Do you think it’s wrong to ask God to minimize our suffering? It really isn’t. God cares about the pain we experience and concerned for the condition of our relationship with Him. He knows that sin causes far more harm than physical pain or hardship.

The prayer for protection is not only for the future, but also for today. Praying about evil keeps you alert to the spiritual battle that rages around and within you. One of Satan's favorite tricks is to create a false sense of security so that we might drop our defenses.

Proverbs 3:5 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not lean on your own understanding."

BONUS MATERIAL

ARE YOU READY? REALLY READY?

If you are really ready for God to enlarge your territory, you better fasten your seatbelts. 1 Chronicles 4:10 says if God doesn't put His hand upon you, it will all fall apart. We know that it truth. We all have had moments when we have taken ourselves down the road, to the point, where we know our best efforts are doomed to failure unless He comes through. He wants us to invite Him into this. But, if we play things safely, we may never know this. Venturing beyond where we feel safe in our prayers is going to allow us to see God's hand working powerfully in our lives.

What things in our lives may have been hindering us from venturing out of our comfort zones? It may be fear of failure, doubt, insecurity or people telling us that we won't make it.

Stepping out of our comfort zone can yield more power in our lives. Look around at the people who are successful in your church. Ask them what they do in their prayer life. You will see boldness in their prayers. They know what blessings God has in store as they see their lives unfold.

TIPS FROM TERRI

- *I encourage you to pick up the book **The Prayer of Jabez** by Bruce Wilkinson*
- *Write things down that may be hindering you from venturing out of your comfort zone.*
- *Start reciting **The Prayer of Jabez** every day for the rest of your life.*
- *Purchase a journal and begin to write down every blessing that comes your way.*
- *Review your blessings when you are confronted with hard times.*
- *Remember you are worthy to pray just like Jabez did.*

- *If you are stuck under damaged emotions from your past, or need a greater vision, please reach out to me for a FREE 30 minute complimentary session.*
- *Purchase my book, Face to Face with God, My Best Friend. (I have them here today).*