

Series: Blessed

“Jabez: a Man Who Prayed for a Blessing”

(Sunday Morning January 13th, 2019)

Passage: 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

By drawing our attention to the prayer of Jabez, Dr. Wilkinson has helped us to see that there is a direct correlation between p_____ and the b_____ of God.

Josh 10:12-13 “12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, ‘O sun, stand still at Gibeon, and O moon in the valley of Aijalon.’ 13 So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation avenged themselves of their enemies...”

1 Kings 18:37-28 “37 Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that You, O Lord, are God, and that You have turned their heart back again.’ 38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.”

Matt 15:26-28 (Reference)

I. Jabez Asked the Lord for P_____

1) His P_____

Jabez could have easily allowed the meaning of his name to become a self-fulfilling prophecy; but instead, he found a way to r_____ a_____ all of this through prayer.

James 5:17-18 “17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.”

2) His P_____

Gen 32:26-28 “26 Then he said, ‘Let me go, for the dawn is breaking.’ But he said, ‘I will not let you go unless you bless me.’ 27 So he said to him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Jacob.’ 28 He said, ‘Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel; for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed.’”

Jabez not only asked the Lord to bless him; he asked the Lord to bless him “indeed”, and that would be like adding five e_____ marks.

James 4:3 “You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures”

The word “indeed” also tells us that Jabez understood that wealth alone could turn out to be a c_____ instead of a blessing.

Prov 10:22 “It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich, and He adds no sorrow to it”

II. Jabez Asked the Lord for P_____

1) His P_____

1 Chron 2:55 "The families of the scribes lived at Jabez..."

John 14:12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father"

Matt 28:18 "(Jesus Said) ...'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth..."

The warning is this: before God can enlarge our borders, God must first e_____ us.

2 Cor 12:10 "Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong."

2) His P_____

Exod 13:3 "Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the Lord brought you out from this place..."

Acts 11:21 "And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord"

Jabez understood a very important spiritual principle, and that is that having the b_____ is more important than having the b_____.

Acts 1:8 "but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;..."

Zech 4:6 "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts"

III. Jabez Asked the Lord for P_____

1) His P_____

Matt 6:13 "...do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil..."

The reason this is so important is that the one thing that can reverse the process and take us from e_____ to o_____ is sin.

Judges 16:20 "...he awoke from his sleep and said, 'I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.' But he did not know that the Lord had departed from him"

2) His P_____

1 Tim 3:6 "and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil"

If the Lord enlarges your border by giving you more responsibility in the church, this is all the more of a reason to have a posture of h_____.

James 4:2 "...You do not have because you do not ask,"

Eph 3:20 "Our God is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think"

John 1:12 "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name"

