"Small Prayer, Giant Prize"

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic By: Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder and Vision-Holder September 26, 2020

Jabez was an honorable man in the Old Testament. His name in Hebrew, however, means 'pain'. He wanted a life free from pain, so he prayed to God to bless him with an abundant life. Jabez demonstrated how a short but powerful prayer of a righteous man wins God's favor and blessings.

1. Keys to living a blessed life:

- 1.1. Living right and honorable for God
- 1.2. Right relationship with God
- 1.3. Remain in God & His word
 - Blessed is the man who finds delight in God's word, who studies His Word day and night.
- 1.4. Trust God
- 1.5. Obedience to God

2. What the word "blessing" means:

- 2.1. To bless in the biblical sense means to ask for or impart a supernatural favor.
- 2.2. "The Lord's blessing is our greatest wealth; all our work adds nothing to it" (Prov. 10:12).

3. The Prayer of Jabez

"Oh, that you may truly bless me and extend my boundaries! May your hand be with me and make me free of misfortune, without pain!" (1 Chron 4:10)

3.1. "God bless me."

A. Jabez enthroned God.

 When we praise God, we start praising the attributes of God and stop focusing on our circumstances. (2 Chron. 20:3,6)

B. Jabez saw in advance the blessings of God that he wanted to be bestowed upon him.

 Let us ask God to give us a greater perspective to see new opportunities to serve him with greater holiness, righteousness, and truth.

3.2. "God, expand/enlarge my territory."

A. Jabez prayed for enlargement.

He prayed for supernatural intervention and was given more opportunities and

responsibilities to make a mark for God. (Jos. 1:2-3)

B. Jabez prayed for enrichment

• "If you are not going yourself, do not make us go up from here" (Exo. 33:15).

3.3. "May your hand be with me."

A. Jabez prayed for God's ever presence.

- God promises us to always be with us and never abandon us. (Jos. 1:5)
- "God does not change" (Mal.3:6).
- The arm of the Lord is not too short to save. (Is. 59:1)

B. Jabez prayed for enablement.

 We who lack in strength, courage, and wisdom should pray for supernatural capacity to accomplish our mission through the power of the Holy Spirit.

3.4. "Make me free from misfortune without pain!"

A. Jabez prayed for energization

- God gave him supernatural strength to accomplish His work
- "Fear not for I am with you." (Is. 41:10)
- "Be strong, be courageous... I am with you wherever you go." (Jos. 1:9)

We need to live righteous lives for God watches us closely. He grants our prayers when we are in a right relationship with him. When our hearts are set aright in God, He will bless us, expand our territories, and enable us to accomplish our mission.

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