



God's
Word
Fellowship

And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow.

1 Chronicles 4:9 KJV

Title: Prayer of Jabez

The name Jabez means 'sorrow' or 'pain'. His mother named him Jabez, because she bore him with sorrow. Sometimes parents name their children based on what they are going through at that moment. Troubles don't last forever. Situations change. Feelings fade away. But if you name your children based on your sorrow and the turmoil in your life, it will leave a bad impression on your children. Because they have to bear the pain of carrying that name for the rest of their life. I heard about a woman who named her child 'corona' because the child was born during the pandemic. That's crazy, isn't it? Pandemic comes to an end at some point of time. Now, people don't speak about corona as much as they spoke during pandemic. Even media is speaking less about pandemic when compared to how much they spoke before. What about the child who was named after a virus? Who would like to call themselves virus, sorrow, pain and so on? These things keep reminding them of sorrow and pain. It will leave a bad image in their mind.

The prayer of Jabez is an excellent example for prayer recorded in the bible for our benefit, but many people ignore it. It is an exceptional prayer and we should not fail to pay attention to it. He prayed something different from many individuals. His prayer changed his life. What is so special about his prayer? He decided not to live in the ditch of sorrow and pain with which his mother associated him. He determined in his heart to look to God. He believed that God can change his negative circumstances. He considered God and looked up to Him. "And **Jabez called on the God of Israel**, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep *me* from evil, that it may not grieve me! And **God granted him that which he requested.**" – 1 Chronicles 4:10. Wow! That's an outstanding prayer. He received what he wanted. God lifted him up

from the pit of sorrow and pain. He enlarged his borders and territories. His life took a great turn. That's what everyone of us should be doing.

God hears our prayers. Your background might be bad. Your parents may not have helped you. Your relatives might have rejected you. It doesn't matter. Arise, from the pit of self pity and sorrow and look to your God. He can make your life beautiful and desirable. He can make you look good in the sight of everyone who looked down on you. But you have a part to play in it. Just do like what Jabez did. Look to your maker and call upon Him. God will give you beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. This is the divine exchange. It's very simple. Trust your God and pray. He will do exactly according to what you want.

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