



An unlikely hero?

I Chronicles 4:1-11 (9-10)

Sunday 15 August 2010

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I Chronicles 4:1-23 Genealogical fragments

¹ The descendants of Judah: Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur and Shobal.

² Reaiah son of Shobal was the father of Jahath, and Jahath the father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the clans of the Zorathites.

³ These were the sons of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma and Idbash. Their sister was named Hazzeleponi.

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

⁵ Ashhur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah. ⁶ Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hephher, Temeni and Haahashtari. These were the descendants of Naarah.

⁷ The sons of Helah: Zereth, Zohar, Ethnan, ⁸ and Koz, who was the father of Anub and Hazzobebah and of the clans of Aharhel son of Harum.

⁹ **Jabez was more honourable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain."** ¹⁰ **Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.**

¹¹ Kelub, Shuhah's brother, was the father of Mehir, who was the father of Eshton. ¹² Eshton was the father of Beth Rapha, Paseah and Tehinnah the father of Ir Nahash. These were the men of Recah ...

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Spot the hero...

- I Chronicles 4:1-11
 - *verses 9-10*
- Who was **Jabez** ??
 - more **honourable** than his brothers ...
 - ... so his mother named him **Jabez**
 - = pain, grief, sorrow - **WHY ??**

 - "honourable" = *kabed* = **heavy**
 - a **big** baby ??

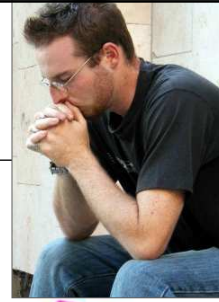


Jabez means pain

- I Chronicles 4:9
 - "because I bore him in **pain**"
 - Hebrew *otseb*
- see Genesis 3:16
 - "in **pain** you shall bring forth children"
 - Hebrew *otseb*
- Hebrew name = character

His reaction

- He called out to God (verse 10)
 - "Oh ..."
- The prayer of Jabez :
 - 1. provision**
"that you would **bless me**"
"and **enlarge** my border"
 - 2. presence**
"that **your hand** might be with me"
 - 3. protection**
"keep me from **harm**"
"so that it might not **hurt me**"
or "so that I might not **cause pain**"



God's response

- "God granted what he asked"
 - **YES !!!**

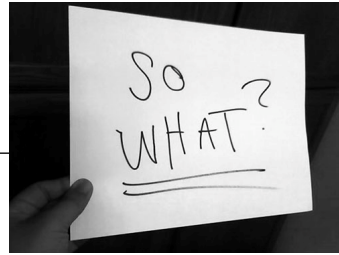


- What happened next ... ???



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And finally...



- Are we like Jabez?
 - content with what we have?
 - or crying out to God for more?
- Where is our "**Oh ...**" ??
- Let's ask for God's **blessing** & grace
 - think **BIG** - seek God's **provision**
 - depend on his open hand & his **presence**
 - ask for his **protection** not to be wounded (or to wound others)

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