

Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, “Because I bore him in pain. And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested (1 Chron. 4:9-10)

His Prayer

- Displayed vision “Bless me indeed”
- Displayed Ambition: “Enlarge my border”
- Sought guidance: “That thy hand might be with me”

Sought Guidance for Battles

- We too have battles
 - With others (Rom. 12:17-21)
 - With ourselves (Jas. 1:23-25)
 - With brethren (3 Jno. 9-10)
 - With the devil (Eph. 6:13)
- God's hand will be with us because:
 - We have armor (Eph. 6:10-20)
- We have a reward (1 Jno. 2:13-14; 4:4; Rev. 2:7, 11, 26; 3:5, 12, 21, 21:7)

Sought Protection “You would keep *me* from evil”

- Jesus taught us to pray, “Lead me not into temptation” (Matt. 6:13)
- Evil is not just moral things – it is doctrinal also
 - Making ourselves God (Matt. 7:21-23)
 - Taking a bit of truth (2 Pet. 3:16)
 - Following the wisdom of the world (1 Cor. 1&2; Col. 2:18-23)
 - Feelings (Acts 23:1)

Result

- God answered his prayer - “So God granted him what he requested”
- He’ll answer ours
 - Matt. 7:7-11
 - Eph. 3:20
 - Jas. 5:16-18