

Title: Turn "IT" Around

Text: 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

Target: A new beginning starts at the place of a broken ending.

- I. **A Significant Problem:** *"Jabez was more honorable than his brothers; and his mother called his name **Jabez**, saying, "because I bore him in pain". (Vs. 9)*

 - A. **Scandal in His Name:** *"more honorable"*
 - B. **Sound of His Name:** *Jabez (Hebrew: Ya bets-In Pain)*
 - C. **Sorrow in His Name:** *"bore him in pain"*
 1. **Present Insight:** difficult delivery!
 2. **Prophetic Implications:** difficult destiny!

- II. **A Sincere Prayer:** *"Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying..." (10a)*

 - A. **Do a Work in Me:** *"Oh that you would **bless** me"*
 1. **Favor from God:** Acceptance from God.
 2. **Fellowship with God:** Agreement with God.
 - B. **Do a Work through Me:** *"**enlarge** my border"*
 1. **Erase my Limitations:** Impossibilities
 2. **Exchange my Reservations:** Inadequacies
 3. **Exceed my Expectations:** Incapability's
 - C. **Do a Work with Me:** *"that your **hand** might be with me,"*
 1. **Your Presence with me is Vital:** To Guide Me (1 Peter 5:6)
 2. **Your Power with me is Victorious:** To Glorify You (Isaiah 41:10)
 - D. **Do a Work Around Me:** *"and that you would **keep** me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!" (Vs. 10b)*
 1. **Regarding my Tendencies:** In light of my past history. (Proverbs 3:5)
 2. **Revealing my Trajectories:** In light of my presumptuous heart. (Psalm 19:13)

- III. **A Supernatural Promise:** *"And God **granted** what he asked." (Vs. 10c)*
 - A. **When in Agreement to God's Word:** Character of God.
 1. **John 15:7:** *"if you abide in me, my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*
 2. **John 14:14:** *"if you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."*
 - B. **When in Alignment to God's Will:** Cause of God.
 1. **James 4:3:** *"You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions"*
 2. **1 Peter 3:12:** *"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."*

Takeaway: Sometimes God doesn't replace a name; He just chooses to redeem it! (1 Chronicles 2:55)