

SUPERHEROES LIVE WITH FIVE PARADOXES

Sermon Series: Superheroes

Sermon Outline — 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

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- The dictionary defines a “paradox” as: “A paradox is a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth.”¹

† 1 Chronicles 4:9-10, “There was a man named Jabez who was more distinguished than any of his brothers. His mother named him Jabez because his birth had been so painful. ¹⁰He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, ‘Oh, that You would bless me and extend my lands! Please keep me and all that I do and keep me from all trouble and pain!’ And God granted him his request” (NLT).

- Jabez is this Hebrew word [יָבֵז, ya·bēš] and his name means “_____ and _____.”

Ezra Lists the Genealogy Of Jewish Fathers and Their Sons

- † 1 Chronicles 4:1, “The descendant sons of Judah were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Judah’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:2, “The descendant sons of Shobal were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Shobal’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:3, “The descendant sons of Etam were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Etam’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:4, “The descendants sons of Penuel were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Penuel’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:5, “The descendant sons of Ashhur were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Ashur’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:6, “The descendant sons of Naarah were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Naarah’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:7, “The descendant sons of Helah were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Helah’s sons.
- † 1 Chronicles 4:8, The descendants sons of Koz were . . .” and then Ezra list the names of Koz’ sons.

- Jabez’ father is not mentioned because he was born _____, born out of _____.

† Deuteronomy 23:2, “If a person is illegitimate by birth, neither he nor his descendants for ten generations may be admitted to the assembly of the Lord” (NLT).

- This is the Hebrew word for “illegitimate” is [מַמְזֵר, mamzer]. It refers to a child born from _____ and/or from a _____.

† 1 Chronicles 4:11, “Kelub’s descendant sons were . . .” and Ezra lists the names of Kelub’s sons.

† 1 Chronicles 4:12, “The descendant sons of Eshton were . . .” and Ezra lists the names of Eshton’s sons.

- Ezra continues to list the names of fathers and sons in 1 Chronicles 4:13-21.
- When you do not have anyone in your family pushing you to be a superhero for _____, then others will push you to be a superhero for their _____.

Paradoxes Superheroes

1. Superheroes intentionally choose to _____ the way _____.

¹<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/paradox>.

- + 1 Chronicles 4:9 *There was a man named Jabez who was more honorable than any of his brothers . . .” (NLT).*
- + Romans 9:25-26, *“I’ll call nobodies and make them somebodies. I’ll call the unloved and make them beloved. ²⁶In the place where they yelled out, ‘You’re nobody!’ they’re calling you now ‘God’s living children’” (MSG).*

2. Superheroes believe God will answer their _____ in the midst of their _____.

- + 1 Chronicles 4:10, *“He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, ‘Oh, that You would bless me and expand my territory! Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain!’” And God granted him his request” (NLT).*
 - Pain simply comes to announce that something has to be _____.
 - Maybe things haven't moved because you still haven't _____.
- + Ephesians 3:20a, *“God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, His Spirit deeply and gently within us” (MSG).*

Here Is How God Does This

- a. It means everything that God does in your life will always go _____ than what you think, but He'll always be gentler than you think.
- b. For this reason, God knows your _____. God is always wanting to bring us to a place where you can have a _____.
- c. A breakup will always lead you to a _____, but a breakdown will always lead you to your _____.

3. Superheroes ask God to do a miracle that will be a miracle for _____.

- + 1 Chronicles 4:10b, *“That Your hand would be with me . . .” (AMP).*
- + 1 Chronicles 4:10b, *“Let your hand be with me so that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” (PAR).*
 - Southside, be a _____ for someone else.

4. Superheroes keep their faith in God to work when _____.

- The good you do today people might forget tomorrow, however do good anyway. Give the world the _____. It may never be enough for them. Give it to anyway, because in the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was and will never be between them and you anyway.
- + Galatians 6:9-10, *“So let's not get tired of doing good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. ¹⁰Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone, especially to those in the family of faith” (NLT).*

5. Superheroes honor the _____ while remaining passionately loyal to the _____.

- + 1 Chronicles 4:38, *“These mentioned above by name were leaders . . . and their families and their father's house increased greatly” (NKJV). — Verses 24-27 gives us the names of the descendants of Simeon. Jabez is mentioned in verses 9-10 in the names of the leaders the family.*
- + Psalms 71:18, *“Now that I'm old and gray [You might not have gray because you color it.] do not abandon me. Let me proclaim Your power to this new generation, Your mighty miracles to all who come after me” (NLT).*