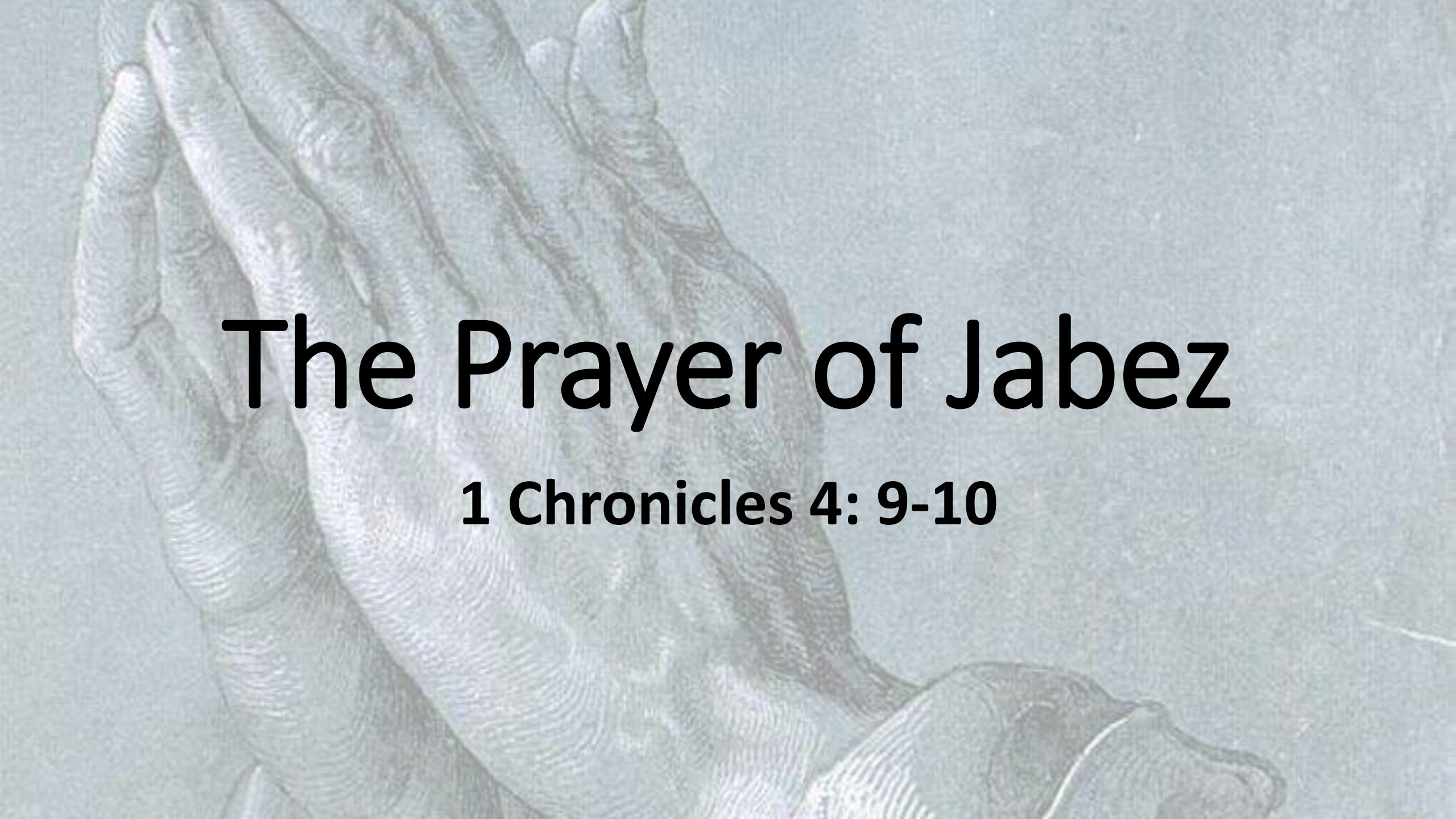
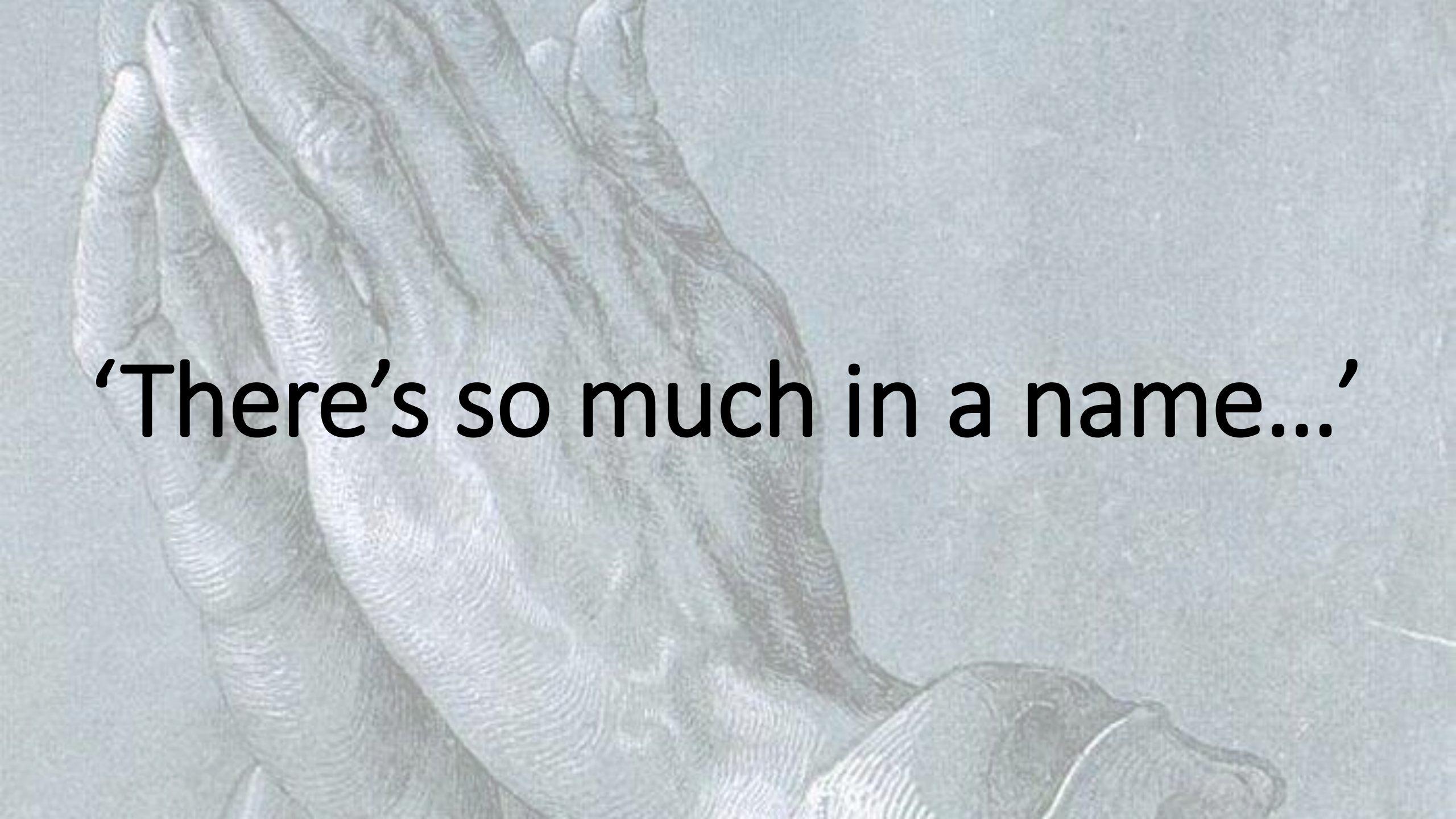




The Prayer of Jabez

1 Chronicles 4: 9-10



‘There’s so much in a name...’

What do we know about Jabez?

- Lived in southern Israel during the time of the judges
- Born into the tribe of Judah
- Became the notable head of a clan
- More honourable than his brothers
- Jabez means 'pain'
- Named after his mother's pain in childbirth
- Likely fatherless – poor prospects & status

1 Chronicles 4: 9-10

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.

What the Prayer of Jabez is not:

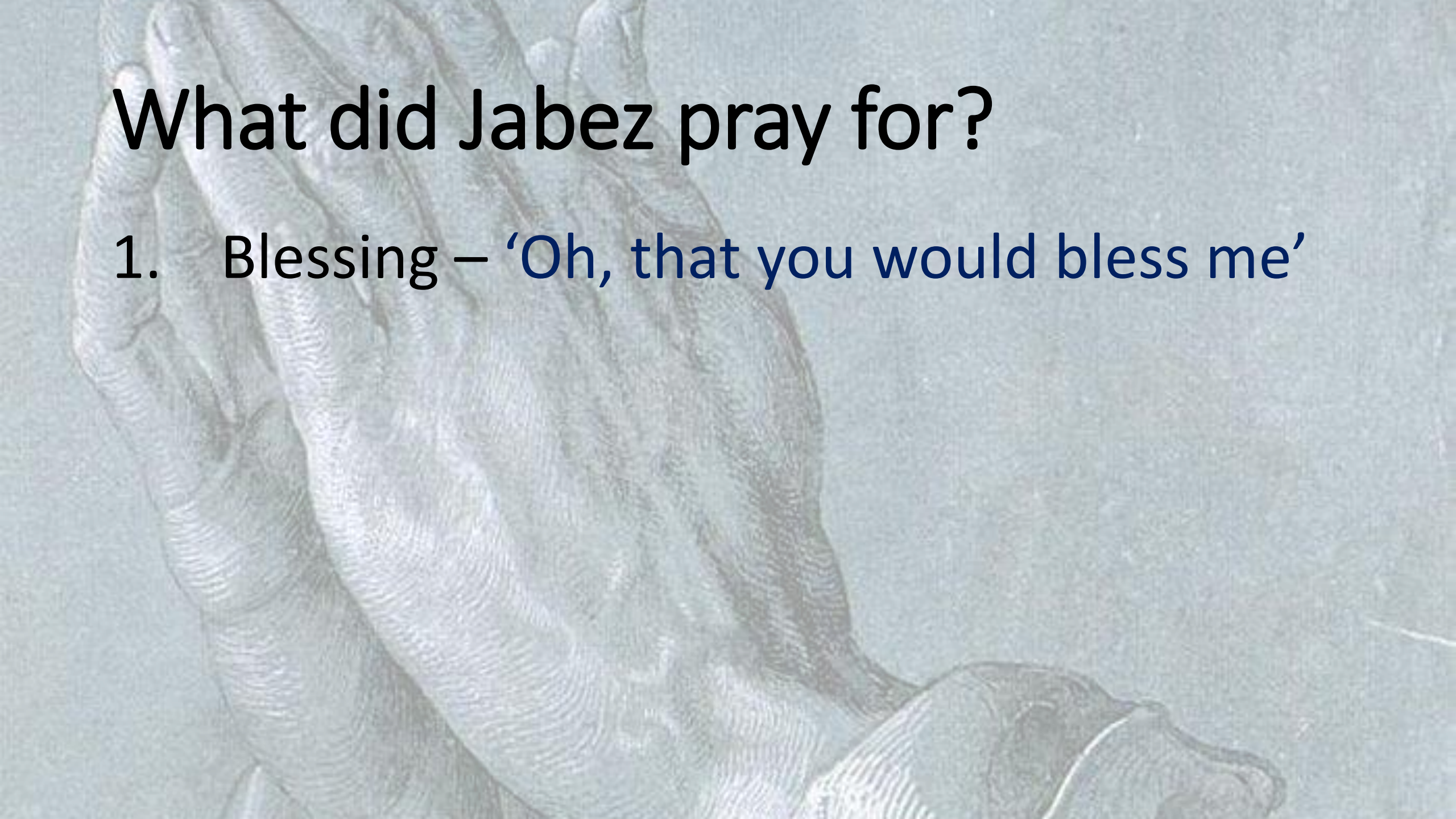
- A magical formula for getting your prayers answered
- An endorsement of the prosperity gospel
- Suggesting that we should treat God like a vending machine



What the Prayer of Jabez is:

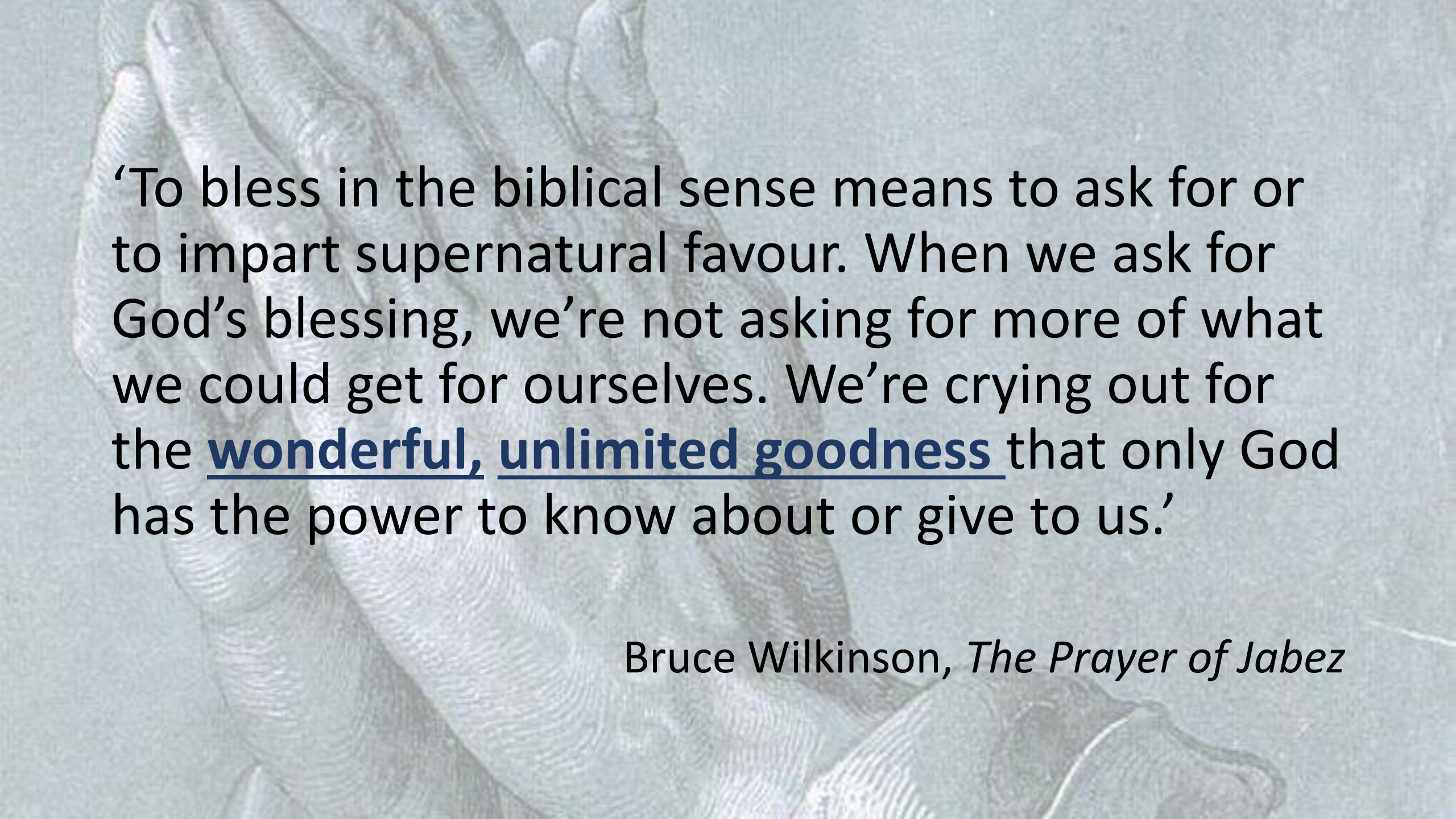
- Sincere – heartfelt plea
- Short – 2 sentences
- Specific – 4 requests





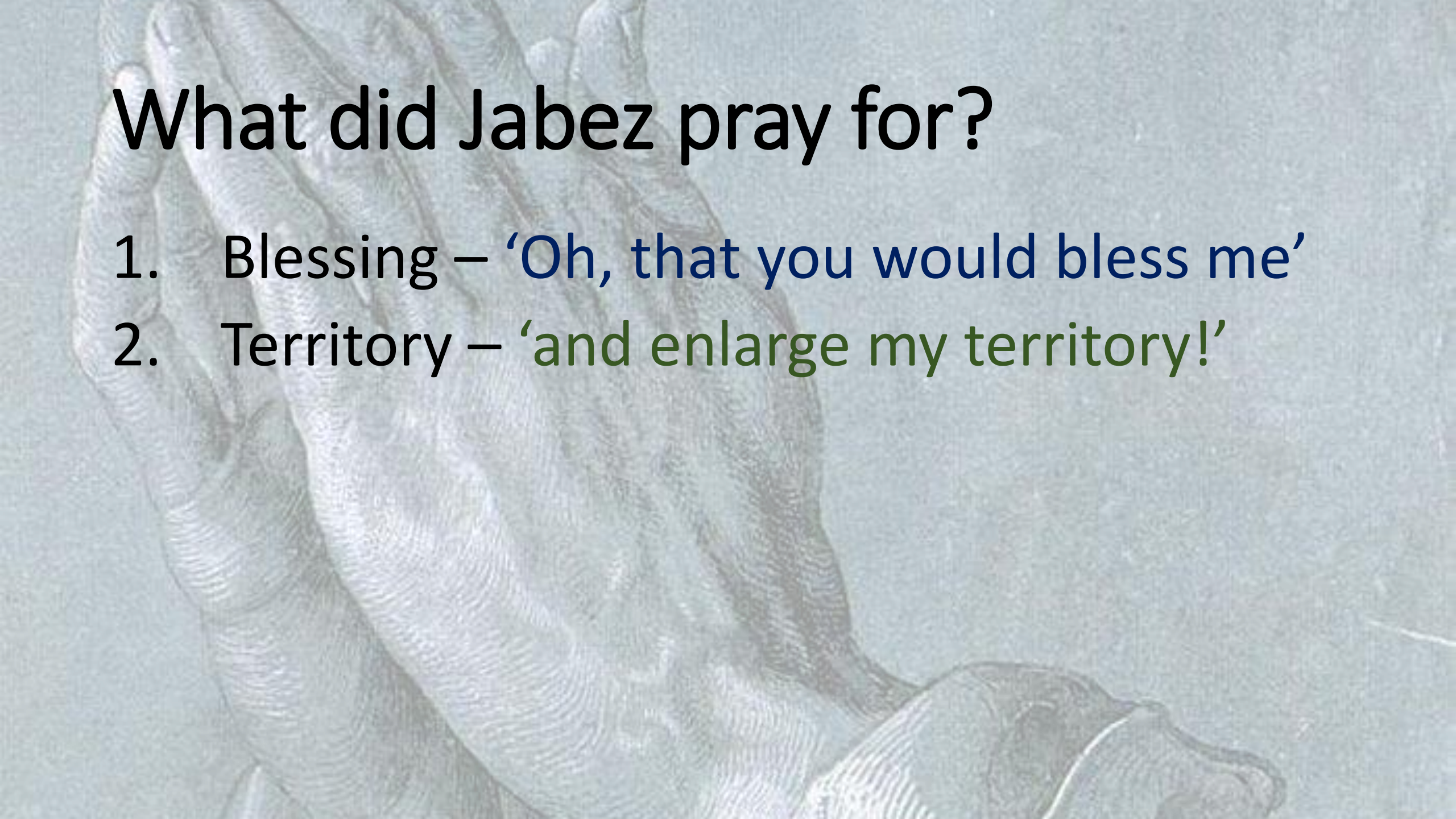
What did Jabez pray for?

1. Blessing – ‘Oh, that you would bless me’



‘To bless in the biblical sense means to ask for or to impart supernatural favour. When we ask for God’s blessing, we’re not asking for more of what we could get for ourselves. We’re crying out for the wonderful, unlimited goodness that only God has the power to know about or give to us.’

Bruce Wilkinson, *The Prayer of Jabez*



What did Jabez pray for?

1. Blessing – ‘Oh, that you would bless me’
2. Territory – ‘and enlarge my territory!’

What did Jabez pray for?

1. Blessing – ‘Oh, that you would bless me’
2. Territory – ‘and enlarge my territory!’
3. Presence & Power – ‘Let your hand be with me’

What did Jabez pray for?

1. Blessing – ‘Oh, that you would bless me’
2. Territory – ‘and enlarge my territory!’
3. Presence & Power – ‘Let your hand be with me’
4. Protection - ‘And keep me from harm so that I may not cause pain’

What now?

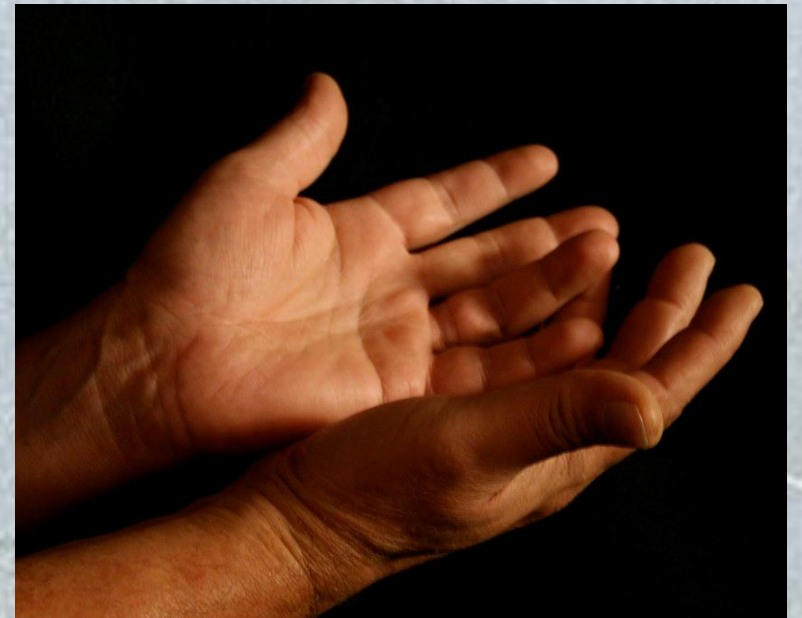
1. Remember who(se) we are



What now?

2. Surrender our pain

...the voluntary, wilful act of yielding one's own will, desires, and control to align with God's will, authority, and teachings. It involves turning from personal strategies and worldly perspectives to trust entirely in God's sovereignty. It is not defeat, but a loving, humble, and obedient submission to Him.



What now?

3. Pray the Jabez prayer with assurance – see what happens!

- Blessing
- Territory
- Presence & Power
- Protection

