

# God's Calm

## In the Struggle and Trouble

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Psalms 23:1-6 NIV

**Psalms 23 CHALLENGES ME to BREAK agreement with the lies/deceptions that are consuming my thoughts and keeping me from enjoying all God has FOR me.**

### **5 seats at my table:**

**Guilt/Shame** – Resolved / Unresolved

**Conflict/Offense** – Resolved / Unresolved

**Troubling Concerns** – Resolved / Unresolved

**Aspirations** – Resolved / Unresolved

**Decisions** – Resolved / Unresolved

### **THREAD**

The BIG surprise for many of us is that God WANTS us to experience HIS calm.

**Simple Question: Do you have unresolved ASPIRATIONS? (Today could be the day you resolve the decision to embrace them.)**

### **2 Kinds:**

- 1. Aspiration to be FREE of an entanglement.**
  1. Level 1
    - He forgave me
  2. Next Level
    - I'm forgiven! NOW WHAT!
- 2. Aspiration to make a greater IMPACT (Next week)**

**Unresolved aspirations/decisions hold you back from experiencing heaven on earth.**

1 Chronicles 4:9-10

*“There was a man named Jabez.”*

- Jabez means *“Pain, distress”*

*“Who was more honorable than any of his brothers.”*

- In his family he became the standout.  
- It wasn't always this way, but it is what became.

*“His mother named him Jabez because his birth had been so painful.”*

- His own mother labeled him in this context, *“You are the source of my pain.”*

*“He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel.”*

- He was the ONE out of many who believed God wanted to write a different story, a redemption story.  
- He humbled himself.  
- He recognized his inability to save himself from himself.  
- He knew who **could/would** help him write the redemption story.  
- He knew the ONE who could make this ASPIRATION true.

*“Oh, that you would bless me and expand my territory!”*

- Jabez believed his life could have a greater impact than what he could do on his own.  
- Jabez prayed in faith for this bold THING.  
- (Will unpack this next week)

*“Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain.”*

- I want Your fingerprints all over everything I do.

**2 WAYS this can be answered:**

1. Prevent it... I assure you He has.
2. Learning to embrace His grace.

*“And God granted him his request.”*

- Which part? All of it!

## **Challenge:**

- Do you hear from the ASPIRATION chair – FREEDOM. I'm forgiven, SO now WHAT BOLD freedom will I live?
- Do you hear from the ASPIRATION chair – FREEDOM. What bold THING will you RESOLVE to make true of you? How will your LEGACY story TWIST and TURN towards Jesus?!
- What does the NEXT LEVEL of freedom look like FOR you?

## **CHECK OUT THESE FREE ONLINE RESOURCES:**

### **STUDIES BY DOUG BRITTON:**

Overcome Guilt and Shame: Part 1

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-forgiveness](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-forgiveness)

Overcome Guilt and Shame: Part 2

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/not-bad-person](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/not-bad-person)

Overcome Guilt and Shame: Part 3

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/inappropriate-guilt](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/inappropriate-guilt)

### **SUMMIT UP DEVOTIONALS:**

<https://heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/>