

THE FAVOR OF THE LORD

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September 30, 2012

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**“Now Daniel so distinguished himself
Among the administrators and the
Satraps by his exceptional
Qualities that the king planned to
Set him over the whole kingdom.”
Ω Daniel 6:3**

Do you enjoy the favor of the Lord? Does He smile when He looks at you each day? Do you bring joy to His heart or sadness? We need to think about how we treat the Lord and the things we say about Him, especially if they are contrary to the Word. If you're not sure about the favor of the Lord then the Lord has commanded me to show you the truth from the Scriptures so that you can arise in faith and victory and fulfill the dreams He has placed in your heart.

Now one of my goals in life is to never say or do anything that would hurt or displease the Lord. Normally, we don't think about our words, actions or thoughts hurting the Lord but they can. In fact, I've had two people tell me of experiences that they had where the Lord told them: “When you sin it hurts me.” Yes, when you repent of sin it's under the Blood but your sin still “hurts” the Lord.

Many years ago when she was pastoring the Lord gave Evie a message titled, “The Legacy of a Dreamer.” In this message He showed her that He is a dreamer and to fulfill His dreams He creates human

beings! You were once a dream in the heart of the Lord! But now let me ask you a question—what are you doing to bring His dream to pass in your generation?

**“Then the Lord said to Noah, ‘Come into the ark,
You and all your household, because I have
Seen that you are righteous before Me in
This generation.’”
Ω Genesis 7:1**

**“And may not be like their fathers,
A stubborn and rebellious generation,
A generation that did not set their
Heart aright, and whose spirit was not
Faithful to God ... For forty years I was
Grieved with that generation, and said,
‘It is a people who go astray in their
Hearts, and they do not know My ways.’”
Ω Psalm 78:8, 95:10**

The Lord has instructed me to share this teaching with you so that you can be certain of His favor. As you read it please be open to the Holy Spirit’s rebuke so that you can repent of any sins that have hindered you in fulfilling God’s dream through you.

For many years I’ve preached, especially to the CCI church in Montana, about Pastor Littlefield of Cleveland, Tennessee. I met brother Littlefield through Brother Norvel Hayes back in the ‘80s. Brother Littlefield was in his ‘70s then and the first time I ministered at his church—Faith Memorial Church—he shared with me a spiritual exercise that he did with everyone he met. He said, “Look at your hands. There are about 3 billion people on the earth and let’s hope by the grace of God that they all have 2 hands so there are about 6 billion hands on Planet Earth today and they are all different—no two hands are identical! Now look at your hands, Brother Philip. Do you know why they are different from anybody else? Because God created your hands to do certain tasks and you are the only one that can do them!”

For many years I've had a series of dreams and visions that are a continuation of the same theme—God creates each of us for a specific purpose in this generation. Now because He designed you for a specific purpose He places gifts and callings into your spirit before birth when He is creating you—gifts that will help you fulfill your chosen purpose in *your* generation. Along with these gifts, He grants His children favor in the earth with men. And of course we *see* this in the Scriptures if we have the Eye of the Eagle in the lives of Abraham, Moses, Esther, Deborah, Elijah, David, Daniel and others such as Mary, the mother of Jesus: "... you have found favor with God" (Luke 1:30).

So the Lord wants you to understand this principle and we will be examining the Scriptures regarding the lives of two of God's servants—Daniel and Joseph, but you should understand that it applies to others and you will see this if you study the Scriptures because the Bible says, e.g., regarding David: "Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight" (1 Samuel 16:22).

**"For David, after he had served his own
Generation by the will of God, fell asleep"
Ω Acts 13:36**

David was a mighty man of God who served the Lord with all his heart and fulfilled God's purpose for his life even though he had obstacles to overcome. But notice the above scripture says that "he had served his own generation." We are the Church and we are called, anointed and given a mandate to serve our generation.

In 1996 in Quezon City, Philippines, the Lord gave me a message I ministered at a three-church conference. The message was titled: "Is there not a cause?" The Lord said that David was a type of the remnant Church—the Bride—and He gave me about 30 points from the Scriptures to prove this.

You see, my brothers and sisters, the basic problem is *not* that you don't believe God answers prayer or that He lacks the means or resources to make your dreams come true—thus also fulfilling His

dreams in you. Most Christians know, e.g., that God can heal them of a serious disease but they die anyway. Why is that? Most Christians know that God can bless them with finances, children or whatever they are believing God for from the Scriptures but, e.g., in the area of finances they continue in lack. Why is that? Where is the favor of the Lord? If you don't think you are experiencing the favor of the Lord then you should find out why from the Holy Spirit.

Let's first examine the life of Daniel for favor. As the first scripture, Daniel 6:3, in this lesson demonstrates, Daniel had favor. When the king of the land desires to put you in charge "of the whole kingdom" then it's obvious to even the most casual observer that you have favor. But just why did Daniel have favor with this gentile king? If you can answer this question then it will increase your faith for "favor" with the mayor, senator or congressman of your state or the president of your bank. Right? Why? Because when you have favor from the Lord you will also have favor with men, even the unsaved (gentiles) of the world and we see this principle at work in the life of Daniel.

But let's notice another important fact from the Scriptures we find in Daniel 6 that also applies to your life and favor from the Lord, not everybody is going to be happy about it! The devil, in particular, is not going to be happy about it because he wants *his* people in those positions of power (see the Vision of the Chessboard in my book *Revelations from God*) and he will move people to come against you just like he moved against Daniel through his evil spirits of pride, jealousy, etc. Notice Daniel 6:4-9 and you'll see that they set a trap for Daniel to destroy him and *prevent* God's favor upon Daniel from being exercised through King Darius. And as I preached in the message in 2005, *Bringing the Will of God to Pass Through Spiritual Warfare*, even though you may know the will of God for your life in certain areas the devil will fight you and you must know how to enter into spiritual warfare to be successful or God's will may never come to pass.

This chain of events led to a spiritual test for Daniel that he had to pass which resulted in his being thrown into the lions' den. The lions' den is a good example for us to study and understand. Who is the *real* lion? Jesus—He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah—but the bible says

that Satan imitates the real lion. Peter wrote: “Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary [just like Jesus, Daniel, etc., you have an adversary] the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” Why is he seeking “whom he may devour?” Because he can’t devour everybody; he won’t be able to devour you if you are strong in the shield of faith and the Word.

But there is one very important fact I want to get across to you in this teaching because not understanding this has cost many Christians their lives and even their salvation at times. Just because you have to go into the lions’ den doesn’t mean that God’s abandoned you or that you don’t have the favor of the Lord! So many Christians stumble over a “cross” that they have to bear or circumstances the enemy sends their way and normally their response is: “Why did God let this happen to me?”

Daniel was not delivered from the trial of the lions’ den but he was delivered *out* of the lions’ den! Joseph was not delivered from being sold into slavery or spending 12-13 years in prison but he was delivered *out* of prison and made the prime minister over all of Egypt! Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were not delivered from the fiery furnace were they? No, but God did deliver them *out* of it.

We simply must understand a principle that the Lord shared with me to include in *Mysterious Secrets*. The Lord has tasks and things that need to be done here on earth and He never told us it was going to be easy, did He? But they need to be done so He needs people that are willing to go into the lions’ den, to prison or the fiery furnace and He will deliver you out of those places.

No, just because you have to go through trials doesn’t mean God has abandoned you or that you don’t have the favor of the Lord because you do. For the same reason Balaam was told by the Lord that he could not curse Israel even though he wanted that money so badly that he didn’t care. But he learned that you can’t curse somebody that God has blessed.

You see, one of our major problems is not understanding spiritual things—unless we really strive to develop the Eye of the Eagle we struggle in life with the favor and blessings of God because we allow physical circumstances and the attacks of the enemy to distract us from the truth. Now, you might say to me, “Brother Timmons, I know the Word says I have favor and the blessings of the Lord but my wallet looks like an elephant just stepped on it.” I know the feeling, but what does the Word say? When it seemed to David that he was never going to become king even though physically Samuel had anointed him 7 years before, he said in his heart (in other words, he thought it but God knows our thoughts): “One day I shall now perish by the hand of Saul ...”

You see, David was already king! He became the king as soon as he was anointed with oil by the prophet Samuel. That is precisely *why* the Spirit of God departed from Saul because the Holy Spirit could only rest upon the *true* king! Yet to all who did not have the Eye of the Eagle it appeared that Saul was still king. Did Satan know this? Yes, because it’s a sad fact that Satan has the Eye of the Eagle much better than 99.9% of Christians. So what did Satan do? He tried to get Saul to kill David, didn’t he, even though David continued to be faithful to Saul until the day of his death.

Now let’s briefly look at Joseph, the son of Jacob. Joseph is an interesting study in the Scriptures for a number of reasons. He is a perfect *type* of Jesus, isn’t he? There are so many similarities: he had extreme favor from his father, he was rejected by his brothers, he was sold into slavery (a type of sin) and betrayed by his brothers, he had prophetic revelation, he was a prophet, he married a gentile bride, he was a righteous man, and he was exalted to become the ruler of Egypt—a type of the world.

Jacob had twelve sons but we know from the Scriptures that he was deceived into marrying Leah first when he thought it would be Rachel; therefore, of the twelve sons born to him the two—Joseph and Benjamin—born of Rachel were his favorites and no doubt this incited the other 10 brothers against Joseph because he was the oldest of Rachel’s sons. Nevertheless, Joseph was favored of God as well and

he was “gifted” by the Lord with prophetic gifting, wasn’t he? And it was this prophetic gifting and the ability to understand dreams and visions that ultimately led to his being exalted to become prime minister over all of Egypt just like Daniel, right? Now let me ask you a question: where did this gifting come from? As I just wrote above, it came from God and therefore was the favor of the Lord, wasn’t it? It’s important to understand this because we tend to focus on the physical. You see, in the physical, there was also a sign of favor—remember, like Jesus and because of the Blood, we have favor with both God and men—and what was that sign? It was the *coat of many colors* that his physical father had given to him as a blessing and sign of Jacob’s favor. But there was an even more important *sign of favor*—a sign no one could see unless they had the Eye of the Eagle because it was a spiritual sign—spiritual gifts given from the Father in Heaven so that Joseph could fulfill his God-created purpose in life. And, like Jesus again as a type, what was that purpose? Joseph himself tells us: “to preserve life” (Genesis 50:20).

But now let’s move on to another verse of Scripture because Joseph’s entire story isn’t told in Genesis, is it? That’s why you need to read and meditate the whole counsel of God—the whole Word of God. The Bible tells us in the Psalms that during these 12-13 years Joseph was in prison:

“He [God] sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant, his feet they hurt with fetters; he was laid in chains of iron and his soul entered into the iron, until his word [to his cruel brothers] came true, until the word of the Lord tried and tested him.”

Ω Psalm 105:17-19 Amp. Bible

Now this is important to understand because I can tell you from reading and meditating in this Psalm and over Joseph’s life for 40 years several facts:

- Joseph was highly favored of God and man
- God was not the one who sold him into slavery
- But the Lord used these circumstances as a test
- Joseph passed the test with flying colors

I've thought and meditated a lot over these years about Joseph's thoughts, especially while he was in prison. Think about it; he knew he was favored by both God and his father. But when his brothers stripped him of his coat of many colors—his *physical* sign of favor—betrayed and sold him for 20 pieces of silver, what was Joseph thinking? Then in Egypt, he's wrongly accused by Potiphar's wife because he was a righteous man and refused her sexual advances and thrown into prison. What was Joseph thinking? "Where are all my personal prophecies now? I thought I was supposed to be exalted to rule over my family and brothers but instead they've sold me into slavery and rejected me. They tore up my coat of many colors and my favor is gone. Where is the favor of the Lord in all of this?"

Isn't it interesting that it always comes down to that last question, doesn't it—where is the favor of the Lord in all of this? Everything—all the material things I had are gone and the family I loved. Even the coat of many colors that symbolized my father's love from me has been taken from me dipped in blood and torn to shreds. I've been sitting here in prison all these years for being a righteous man—they believed a liar and unfaithful woman over me because she was a prominent woman. "God, I've been true and faithful; where is your favor?"

Now, Eye of the Eagle, yes the circumstances cannot be ignored: I'm in prison, I lost my job, my wife left me for another man, the doctor says I have terminal cancer, etc., but **what does the Word say? Remember, these things may all come but there is a time limit—and it's given in Psalm 105:19. Like Joseph, you have a word of the Lord and you must pass the test of the Word—am I going to believe these circumstances or the Word? Again, remember an important verse of the Scriptures—2 Corinthians 4:18:**

"Since we consider and look not to the things that are seen but to the Things that are unseen; for the things that are visible are temporal (brief and fleeting), [in other words, they're subject to change] but the Things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting." (Amp. Bible)

So, what does the Word say concerning favor?

**“For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous;
With favor You will surround him as with a shield.”**

Ω Psalm 5:12

“You have granted me life and favor”

Ω Job 10:12

**“Remember me, O Lord, with the favor
You have toward Your people”**

Ω Psalm 106:4

**“And Jesus increased in wisdom and
Stature, and in favor with God and men.”**

Ω Luke 2:52

When the Lord first moved us to Montana, changed our ministry and began to reveal the false church to us through a time of extreme revelation, the Lord spoke to my wife and said: “Don’t allow the devil to cause you to lose your focus.” You see, the devil will always send trials and circumstances against you just like he did Joseph and Daniel with the purpose being to cause you to lose your focus on the Lord and what He’s called you to do for your generation!

As the Body of Christ, all members of the Church share in the same “favor with God and men” that both Joseph and Jesus exemplified during their days upon the earth as a man. Remember, the Bible is true. You have the favor of the Lord so confess it and act like it’s true—because it is—don’t allow the devil to cause you to lose your focus and you will begin to see things change in your life. Because your confession is now in line with the Word the Holy Spirit will be able to bring this promise—the favor of the Lord is upon the righteous—to pass in your life because the Word and the Spirit agree. Praise the Lord!

