



Favor—The Way to the Top

God Has Favor Toward Us

Leader's Notes

I. God's living Word has dominating power.

- God prophesied 715 years earlier that Joseph and Mary would be in Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus.
- Micah 5:2, *"But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel will come from you, one whose origins are from the distant past" (NLT).*
- God's Word caused Caesar to change the taxing location for the Jews—they had to travel to their ancestral home towns.
- Luke 2:1-6, *"At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born" (NLT).*
- God planned your life to be good before the foundation of the world.
- Ephesians 2:10, *"For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]" (AMP).*

II. We need to renew our minds to the favor of God.

- God is for us, not against us.



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- God swore that He would give us kindness and mercy.
- Isaiah 54:9-10, *“Just as I swore in the time of Noah that I would never again let a flood cover the earth, so now I swear that I will never again be angry and punish you. For the mountains may move and the hills disappear, but even then my faithful love for you will remain. My covenant of blessing will never be broken,” says the Lord, who has mercy on you* (NLT).
- That is why no weapon formed against us will prosper.
- Isaiah 54:17, *“But in that coming day no weapon turned against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the Lord; their vindication will come from me. I, the Lord, have spoken!”* (NLT).
- Since Jesus was resurrected, God no longer sees our sin.

III. Faith demands that God be your *only* source.

- Take the shield of faith and resist all doubts of God’s favor.
- Ephesians 6:12, *“For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places”* (NLT).
- Ephesians 6:16, *“In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil”* (NLT).
- Faith cannot take root in an environment of doubt or condemnation.
- Read God’s Word as if Jesus were saying it to you face-to-face.
- Make a commitment to live by faith, and God will teach you how.



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Quote From Kenneth Copeland

In the spirit realm, God sees us as already there—living in all that God has provided.

Confession

I believe God has given me His favor in my life. He is my source, my only source, and I depend on His Word more than anything else. When God speaks through His Word, I believe He is speaking directly to me, and I will obey. God has planned good for me, and I live in His favor.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, Amen.
