

2019 - The Favor of the Lord

Isaiah 61 New International Version (NIV)

The Year of the Lord's Favor. The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

Favor will be pouring out upon us in 2019!

Favor is not something that comes without cost. Favor comes out of Obedience. Favor comes out of Listening especially if you act on what you hear. Favor comes out of Feeling when you recognize the needs of a situation. All of our senses can carry favor if it changes our paths into a more godly direction.

I have felt that I have had Favor all of my life even though I lost my father at the age of 3 and was labeled incorrigible by the Boy Scouts and asked to leave as a 10 year old.

It meant to me that they didn't like me and now I couldn't play with my new friends. Sitting on my bed in Pensacola I felt I heard from my father to shrug it off, keep focused, do something good with my life.

Being raised by a single mom and a sister 8 years older was not an easy task but I seemed to get "bumpers" from the Lord that kept me on the right path.

As I grew older and served in the military and finished college, the favor of the Lord allowed me to meet and marry my wife of 47 years. She tells the story that the Lord spoke to her the night she met me and said this will be your husband. After three dates I proposed and a year later we were married. The Favor remained as we grew in the Lord and I was recruited into the US Secret Service.

Favor followed me in my career and our family grew. I served five Presidents and moved 8 times but always looking for the right path for success as an agent and as a man. It was after serving 23 years that the Lord spoke clearly to Rhonda and me that we should step out into full time ministry.

Twenty years later in ministry, after serving for seven years as the National Mens Director for the Assemblies of God and then moving to Pensacola, FL, my boyhood home, we launched a new

ministry to men and their families, Champions of Honor. While ministering nationally Favor opened doors to be executive director of CGIA and to launch Church Security conferences as well as consulting major churches and ministries. Favor has followed us the entire way and has opened up many doors for opportunities of ministry.

It was when I was called to the ministry that the Lord revealed to me that He was the one speaking to that 10 year old on that bed in Pensacola, encouraging me, being a Father to the fatherless. As a kid I did not understand that at the time but after a lifetime of preparation I realize He has had His hand on me the entire time.

We look back and see the “stones of remembrance” - times when God intervened in our lives. Times when He kept ‘bumping’ us in the right direction. It is those stones that give us hope and expectancy for the future.

I am but one person that the Lord showed His favor but there are many others in the stories of the Bible:

Noah had the favor of the Lord because of his righteous living which covered him and his family.

David had the favor of the Lord because he was a worshipper of the Lord. He became an man after Gods own heart.

Nehemiah had the the favor of the the Lord because he fasted and prayed, then acted upon the circumstances in his homeland.

Moses had the favor of the Lord and in obedience he led a nation back to their promised land.

How do we get the Favor of the Lord? Seek first the Kingdom of the Lord!

Do we deserve the Favor of the Lord? No, it is a gift bestowed upon us from God.

Is the Favor for everyone? Yes, and it will be pouring out this year in abundance.

Do you need salvation to get the Favor of the Lord? No but salvation will come as He purifies you into the creation he meant you to be.

Think about the times when the Favor of the Lord came upon your life and how it impacted your destiny. What “stone monuments” will you build?

God is calling us to proclaim the good news and step out in the Favor of the Lord.

Chuck Brewster