

# **Destruction of Divine Favor – 3**

**With Bishop Ronald K. Powell**

# Introduction

- **-If we go through the Bible very well, we shall see what some people did that attracted the favor of God upon their lives, and what others did that separated them from the favor of God.**
- **-The following factors will destroy the favor of God in a man's life.**

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# Disobedience to God

- **-Saul enjoyed the favor of God and was selected as the first king of Israel, but through disobedience, he lost the divine favor. 1 Sam 15: 19-24**

- **1 Samuel 15:24-29 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>24</sup> Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned. I violated the LORD’s command and your instructions. I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them. <sup>25</sup> Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the LORD.”**
- **<sup>26</sup> But Samuel said to him, “I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel!”**
- **<sup>27</sup> As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. <sup>28</sup> Samuel said to him, “The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you. <sup>29</sup> He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind.”**

# 1 Samuel 15:35

- **35 And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the Lord repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.**



# Sexual Sin

- **-We saw Samson losing the favor of God due to his immoral life style. All kinds of sexual sins and immoral lifestyle will make a man to lose the favor of God. Judges 16: 18-21**

- **Judges 16:18-21 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>18</sup> When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines, “Come back once more; he has told me everything.” So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. <sup>19</sup> After putting him to sleep on her lap, she called for someone to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him.<sup>[a]</sup> And his strength left him.**
- **<sup>20</sup> Then she called, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!”**
- **He awoke from his sleep and thought, “I’ll go out as before and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him.**
- **<sup>21</sup> Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison.**



# 3-Pride

- **-Satan was the anointed Cherub at the throne of God. He lost the highly placed position due to pride.**
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- **-God will give grace (favor inclusive) to the humble, but will resist a proud person.**
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- **-Naaman was almost losing the favor of his selective miracle due to pride, but was able to retain it when he humble himself.**

# 4-Stinginess and Lack of Giving.

- **-Those that know to give are always abounding in the favor of God.**
- **Both the widow of Zarephath, and the Shunamite woman received divine favor because they gave sacrificially.**
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- **-God said he will open the windows of heaven upon those that are faithful in their tithes and offerings. Mal 3:8-12**
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- **Malachi 3:8-12 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>8</sup> “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.**
- **“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’**
- **“In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. <sup>11</sup> I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty. <sup>12</sup> “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty.**

# 5-Lack of Faithfulness in the Service of God

- **-If a man is faithful in the service of God, he will enjoy divine favor.**
- **Noah was faithful and his family were favorably preserved.**

# 6-Sowing the seed of Wickedness

- **-The door of favor shall be shut against anyone sowing the seed of wickedness against others. A man will reap what he sows.-  
Adonibezek has been cutting the fingers and toes off other kings without mercy, until it happened to him one day. Judges 1: 5-7.**



- **Judges 1:5-7 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>5</sup> It was there that they found Adoni-Bezek and fought against him, putting to rout the Canaanites and Perizzites. <sup>6</sup> Adoni-Bezek fled, but they chased him and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and big toes.**
- **<sup>7</sup> Then Adoni-Bezek said, “Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off have picked up scraps under my table. Now God has paid me back for what I did to them.” They brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.**



# 7-Prayerlessness

- -Prayer remains one the most effective keys that unlocks the door of favor.
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- -When Esther prayed, she found favor before the king,
- -likewise Nehemiah prayed and received favor.
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- -In prayer, we can lay hold of God's promises in His words and the door of favor shall be opened unto us.

# Conclusion:

- In conclusion, God's favor can bring a lot of blessings upon a man.  
Divine favor can:

## **1. Produce supernatural promotion and increase. (Gen 39:21)**

- **Genesis 39:21 New International Version (NIV) (Joseph)**
- **<sup>21</sup> the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.**

**2-Bring restoration of everything the enemy has stolen. (Exo. 3:21)**

- **Exodus 3:21 New International Version (NIV) (ISRAEL)**
- **<sup>21</sup> “And I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed.**

# Bring honor in the midst of adversaries. (Exo. 11:3)

- **Exodus 11:3 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>3</sup> (The LORD made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and Moses himself was highly regarded in Egypt by Pharaoh's officials and by the people.)**

## 4-Produce increased assets. (Deut. 33:23)

- Deuteronomy 33:23 New International Version (NIV)
- 23 About Naphtali he said:
- “Naphtali is abounding with the favor of the Lord
- and is full of his blessing;
- he will inherit southward to the lake.”
  
- *The sixth son of Jacob and second son with Bilhah. He was the founder of the Israelite Tribe of Naphtali. His name meant My Struggle.*



## 5-Give great and unusual victories even against impossible odds. (Josh 6:20; 10: 9, 20)

- **Joshua 6:20 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>20</sup> When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city.**
  
- **Joshua 10:9 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>9</sup> After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise.**
  
- **Joshua 10:20 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>20</sup> So Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely, but a few survivors managed to reach their fortified cities.**



**6-Give recognition and promotion even when you seem to the least likely one to receive it. (1 Sam. 16:22)**

- **1 Samuel 16:22 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>22</sup> Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, “Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him.”**

# 7-Produce prominence and preferential treatment, favor and kindness. (Esther 5:8)

- Esther 5:8 New International Version (NIV)
- <sup>8</sup> If the king regards me with favor and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question."

# 8-Get petitions granted, even by ungodly civil authority. (Esther 5:8)

- **Esther 5:8 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>8</sup> If the king regards me with favor and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question."**

9-Change rules, regulations, even laws if necessary to your advantage. (Esther 8:5)

- **Esther 8:5 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>5</sup> “If it pleases the king,” she said, “and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king’s provinces.**

**10-Win battles you did not even have to fight because God will fight them for you. (Psalm 44:3)**

- **Psalm 44:3 New International Version (NIV)**
- **<sup>3</sup> It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.**

# Closing

- **-But there is a price to be paid, and that is righteousness.**
- **-It comes through the new birth and through continuing in total obedience to the word of God.**