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**Grace is Greater**

**Part 7 of 8**

**Grace Is Greater Than Any Challenge**

***Psalm 30:5***

***Psalm 30:5 “His anger lasts only a moment, but His favor lasts a lifetime!”***

As a child of God, you've got Someone on your side—or better yet, on the inside—Who's greater than any obstacles or challenges standing between you and your destiny.

Father God is ready to shower you with His favor, and His favor can take you further than you ever imagined!

It’s time for you to experience an outpouring of fresh favor!

Our theme verse, Psalm 30:5, says God’s anger did flash for a moment. It flashed at Jesus on the cross. In one moment, God took out all His wrath and cursed Christ. Jesus was beaten, butchered and killed for your sin and mine. Then that moment was over, and God’s wrath against sin was appeased. There was no more anger left to give. Jesus took all of God’s wrath on Himself for a moment at the cross so that God’s favor could fall on you for a lifetime.

**Because Jesus was cursed for a moment, you get FAVOR forever!**

How long do you get favor? FOREVER!

You are highly favored because of Jesus!

Ephesians 1:6 tells us that God has made us “accepted in the Beloved.” The “Beloved” here refers to Jesus and the word “accepted” in the original Greek text means “given special honor” or “highly favored.”

What does the favor of God look like? It looks exactly like Jesus. God’s favor and God’s Savior are synonymous. You can’t have the Lord and be anything other than highly favored. He’s a magnet to his own favor.

What does it mean to be highly favored? Today I want you to understand the favor that the grace of God brings to you at the cross.

1. ***God’s favor means He makes you righteous.***

***Genesis 6:8-9 “Noah found FAVOR in the eyes of the Lord. This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a RIGHTEOUS man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.”***

***Philippians 2:13 “For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him.”***

***2. God’s favor means He surrounds you with favor.***

***Psalm 5:12 “Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your FAVOR as with a shield.”***

***2 Kings 6:15 “When the servant of the man of God got up early the next morning and went outside, there were troops, horses, and chariots everywhere. ‘Oh, sir, what will we do now?’ the young man cried to Elisha.”***

***2 Kings 6:16-17 “‘Don’t be afraid!’ Elisha told him. ‘For there are more on our side than on theirs!’ Then Elisha prayed, ‘O Lord, open his eyes and let him see!’ The Lord opened the young man’s eyes, and when he looked up, he saw that the hillside around Elisha was filled with horses and chariots of fire.”***

***3. God’s favor means He causes your work to succeed.***

***Psalm 90:17 “May the FAVOR of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us--yes, establish the work of our hands.”***

***Genesis 39:20-22 “Then Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were confined. And he was there in the prison. But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him FAVOR in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph’s hand all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing.”***

***Genesis 39:23 “The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph’s authority, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.”***

***4. God’s favor means He gives you favor with other people.***

***Luke 2:52 “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in FAVOR with God and men.”***

***Genesis 39:21 “But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him FAVOR in the sight of the keeper of the prison.”***

***5. God’s favor means He commits to bless you forever.***

***Psalm 67:1 “May His face smile with FAVOR on us.”***

***Hebrews 4:16 “come boldly to your gracious God. You will receive His mercy and find grace to help you when you need it most.”***

***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.’”***

***Psalm 30:5 “His anger lasts only a moment, but His FAVOR lasts a lifetime!”***

* “God surrounds and protects me with FAVOR like a shield.” (Psalm 5:12)
* “The Lord is a sun and shield. He bestows FAVOR and honor and no good thing does He withhold from me.” (Psalm 84:11)
* “I actively seek and live by God’s wisdom; therefore, I’m highly FAVORED and esteemed in the sight of God and men.” (Proverbs 3:1-4; Proverbs 8:33-35)
* “God’s favor brings promotion and causes me to increase daily.” (Esther 2:17; Psalm 75:6-7)
* “My enemies cannot triumph over me because the Lord has FAVORED me.” (Psalm 41:11)