

Favor of the Lord

Luke 1:26-30

I. The year of the Pomegranate

- A) 640 OT laws represented by the seeds. To keep the law bought favor. This was done through self-effort most failed miserable as evidence that God's plan of salvation was crucial.
 - 1. Today the Pomegranate is known for being very high in antioxidants (anti-toxins).
 - 2. Grace is the anti-toxin for sin (the inability to keep the law).
 - 3. The favor of the Lord builds our immunity to the toxins of our soul.
- B) This year we will let go of the past and all the toxic thoughts about ourselves and God that keep us from being supernatural.
 - 1. My toxic thought- I can't be your pastor like I want to because you won't receive the word of the Lord from me or I know too much in the natural to be actuate. I need to expect favor not insult. I need to reflect insult and not absorb it.
 - 2. Paul- This year you will learn to embrace what God is doing in your life.

II. Favor Defined: The power and means to accomplish destiny

- A) 1: 29- Mary was perplexed- "No man can see God and live"
 - 1. When the hand of God comes upon you it can be scary and very uncomfortable.
 - 2. As a highly favored woman/man, God will draw you beyond your comfort zone into your God sized destiny.
- B) V30- Angel- "Do not be afraid"
 - 1. The angel anticipated Mary's fear because it is very natural.
 - 2. We must choose to silence fear and choose faith.
- C) V34- "How can this be"- How is God going to do this.
 - 1. To walk in the favor of God means that you expect God's provision. (pg.22)
 - 2. v45- blessed is she who believed this would be a fulfillment.
 - a. Math.1:18-25 – faced stoning and strong criticism and rejection.
 - b. To walk in favor means that you do not lose in the darkness what God showed you in the light.
- D) V44, 47, 52- the favor of the Lord is upon the lowly not the powerful.
 - 1. We love power and many teach that the favor of the Lord is power and the American dream.
 - 2. The favor is upon the lowly or humble

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