

Aroma of Favour (III)

“And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said: surely, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which the Lord has blessed.” (Genesis 27:27, New King James Version).

This is the key Bible verse for the **“Come and See”** devotional today.

We cannot conclude this series of three devotionals without emphasising that the favour enjoyed by Jacob was not limited to him alone. God is not a respecter of persons and does not change. His blessings are not limited by generations, races or places; His blessings are set aside only for the Saints. We read in the Bible: *“for You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; with favour you will surround him as with a shield.”* (Psalm 5:12, New King James Version). Let us consider other men and women of purpose, whose presences were made known by this ‘irresistible aroma of favour.’ Let us look at the example of Esther who became acceptable in a foreign land despite her humble background of servitude. (see Esther 1-18).

By way of background, King Ahasuerus’ decree was issued to find a suitable replacement for Queen Vashti who had earlier embarrassed him. The Bible relates that many young virgins, including Esther, were carefully selected for consideration. The ‘aura of God’s favour’ upon Esther caused her to be chosen from the final seven virgins to be paraded before King Ahasuerus (Esther 2:9). The Bible relates that: *“ ... Esther obtained favour in the sight of all who saw her”* (Esther 2:15d, New King James Version). Hence, it was not a surprise she was preferred to other virgins when she appeared before the King. The Bible continues: *“the king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti”* (Esther 2:17, New King James Version).

The Bible also relates that she needed to appear before the King in order to save her people from a plot to destroy them. She was able to gain the acceptance of the King in spite of the prevailing custom. Thus, we read: *“so it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favour in his sight.”* (Esther 5:2a, New King James Version). No earthly authority can resist this divine aura.

We cannot mention all the other patriarchs who lived and walked around with this ‘dew of heaven.’ However, we can mention Jesus Christ, King David, Joseph and Daniel, to name just a few of those who enjoyed the blessings of the ‘aura of favour.’ When this aura comes into one’s life, it envelopes one’s whole presence and makes authorities bow down. One simply becomes a servant of the people, executing God’s will and purpose.

It is not every time that your voice needs to be heard to gain acceptance. Something speaks louder than skills and wisdom and this is the ‘aura of favour.’ It is ignited by the presence of God in a person’s life. The favour of God will dominate everything.

Let us pray: “Father, let your favour replace every odour of rejection operating in my habitation, family and business,” in Jesus’ Mighty Name, Amen.

Bible Reference: *“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men.”* (Luke 2:52, New King James Version).

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