

Highly Favored - # Blessed ?

Pride says that WE have done something to earn it or we deserve favor and Blessing. What if we lose the “blessing”, anointing, or favor?

What if we don't feel like it because of our “substandard” circumstances?

1. Chosen – having been selected as the best or most appropriate.
 2. Predestined – determined in advance by divine will or fate
 3. Favored – divinely selected, preferred
 4. Prosper - succeed, thrive, increase and flourish
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Can prosperity be a state of mind? condition of heart? The way you carry yourself? With or without liquid assets, or net worth?

Can you have a poverty mentality because of poor stewardship?

Can our spirit be needy and weak because of our state of mind?

Deut 28:13 - The Lord will make you the head (leader) and not the tail (follower); and you will be above only, and you will not be beneath, if you listen and pay attention to the commandments of the Lord your God.

for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Josh 1:8

Psalm 1:3 – He yields fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Neh. 2:20 - The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build:

The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women! –

Luke 1:26-28

this proclamation was not one that Mary spoke over her own life; it was Gabriel who spoke this about her. Mary was blessed, but not because she said so, it was because God said so.

In other words, we aren't blessed because we say it. We are blessed because God says it.

But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. – Luke 1:29 (NKJV)

Wait a minute why wasn't Mary shouting? Why didn't she go running through the streets of Nazareth declaring I am blessed and highly favored? Her response was much more subdued and guarded. The New Living Translation uses the words 'confused' and 'disturbed.' This alone tells us that this greeting was very unusual and Mary was not expecting it.

We are blessed because God has graciously willed it to be so. No one deserves God's blessings on his or her own merit. No one has the ability to force God's hand to bless based on works (Eph. 2:1-10). God never has been, nor, will he ever be indebted to humanity. He has poured out his goodness on his people according to his own purpose

If God chooses us, blesses us, prospers us, and favors us, we have to be the most humble people on the earth!