**Favour**

**Introduction**

* The question can be legitimately asked “whose favour am I seeking?
* An answer to that shows where I am at.
* There is the favour of myself, the favour of man (which can be a God thing) and the favour of God.

**Favour of Myself**

* Lk 12:18 This is what I will do: I will tear down my storehouses and build larger ones, and I will store all my grain and my goods there. 19 And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many good things stored up, [enough] for many years; rest and relax, eat, drink and be merry (celebrate continually).”’ 20 But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you;
* Pro 31:30 Favour [is] deceitful, and beauty [is] vain:
* Nothing wrong with anything unless it is put before God. 1 Tim 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
* Pro 22:1 A good name [earned by honorable behavior, godly wisdom, moral courage, and personal integrity] is more desirable than great riches; And favor is better than silver and gold.
* Pro 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in and puts his confidence in the Lord will be exalted and safe.
* snare 1 (snâr) n. 1. A trapping device, often consisting of a noose, used for capturing birds and small mammals. 2. Something that lures or entangles the unwary: the snares of merchandisers; the snare of debt.
* Strongs – bait, lure.
* Movies – Laberenth, The Jerk. Gathered things.
* Lk 12:28 28 But if this is how God clothes the grass which is in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? You of little faith!

**Favour of Man**

Negative

* The pharisees and Sadducees sought the favour of man - (Giving Matt 6:2, Praying Matt 6:5, Fasting Matt 6:15) “So whenever you give to the poor and do acts of kindness, do not blow a trumpet before you [to advertise it], as the hypocrites do [like actors acting out a role] in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be honored and recognized and praised by men. I assure you and most solemnly say to you, they [already] have their reward in full

Positive

* **Joseph** Gen 39:21 “But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.
* **Israelites** Ex 11:3 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses [was] very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.
* **Church** Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

**Favour of God**

* His favour is good for now and eternity. 1 Cor 15:19 19 If we who are [abiding] in Christ have hoped only in this life [and this is all there is], then we are of all people most miserable and to be pitied.
* Persecution will come. 2 Tim 3:12 12 Indeed, all who delight in pursuing righteousness and are determined to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be hunted and persecuted [because of their faith]. No need to look for it, it will find you.
* Strike while the iron is hot. - Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.
* Jesus - Can have the best of both worlds - Lk 2:52. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.
* Mary – Lk 1:30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. Luke 1:30
* Pro 8:35 For whoever finds me (Wisdom) finds life And obtains favour and grace from the Lord.

**Conclusion**

Ps 102:13 You will arise and have compassion on Zion, For it is time to be gracious and show favour to her; Yes, the appointed time [the moment designated] has come.

Choice has never been as stark - My favour, Man’s favour, God’s favour

Matt 6:33 33 But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.

God’s favour is to be favoured.