

Journey Church Hawaii  
**It's Christmas! Part One**  
**"Enjoying the Favor of God"**  
**Luke 1:26-38**

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I. The Favor of God [Luke 1:24-30]

A. Defined

1. God's favor refers to His gracious disposition toward people—His willingness to bless, help, empower, protect, and give access to His presence. It is not something earned by human effort but given through His grace.
2. It is:
  - a. Immediate: "now!" [Titus 2:11]
  - b. Freely given by grace [Eph 2:7-10; Ro 8:32]
  - c. Empowering, Spirit-filled [Acts 1:8; 2:17-18]
  - d. Life-changing: Salvation + Transformation [2 Cor 5:18; Ro 12:1-2]
  - e. Opportunity-based: a divine moment that must be seized [Acts 2:38-39]

B. Highly Favored

1. to pursue with grace; surround with favor; to honor with blessings
2. Jews anticipated Messiah to be born via Davidic line [Micah 5:2], no emphasis on the mother of Messiah. The humility of Mary [Luke 1:48; 2:24]
3. Everyone IN CHRIST [Eph 1:6]

C. Favored

1. The first formal message of Jesus [Luke 4:16-21]
2. that most blessed time when Salvation and the free favors of God profusely abound [2 Cor 6:2; Eph 2:7-10]
3. Everyone IN CHRIST [Ro 3:24; John 1:16-17; Acts 4:33]

D. NOTE: not negated because of illness [2 Cor 12:9]

II. "How can this be?" [Luke 1:31-37]

- A. Mary chosen to be the Mother of Jesus Christ [Jer 1:5; 2 Tim 1:9]
- B. The Immanuel Prophecy [Isa 7:14]
- C. Nothing is Impossible with God [Jer 32:17]

III. Receive and Believe [Luke 1:38]

- A. I am a Child of God; I Serve the Lord [John 1:12-13; Ro 8:14-17; Rev 4:11]
- B. Let it be to me according to Your Word: rhema, spoken Word [Matt 4:4]
- C. Enjoying the Favor of God and being Ready to Hear [Prov 3:1-6; 2 Pe 1:2-4]