



WORDSPIRIT

THE COUNTENANCE OF JEHOVAH

- EMEKA NDUKWE

Scripture says, "*may the Lord lift up His countenance upon you...*" (Numbers 6:26). That is to say, God has a countenance!

There is a direct link between countenance and favour. That was why the scripture linked countenance to favour when it said, "*In the light of the King's countenance is life, and his favour is the cloud of the latter rain*" (Proverbs 16:15 KJV).

The countenance of Jehovah that was on Queen Esther was what brought favour to her life. That is why the scripture says she obtained favour in the sight of all that looked upon her (Esther 2:15). There was something upon her that caused anyone that looked at her to favour her, and it was the countenance of Jehovah.

What was on Esther was more than what you could get by just working hard or by getting more education. It was something supernatural, which is the countenance of Jehovah Himself. It was within the right of the king not to receive Queen Esther when not invited or having prior permission from

the King, and this could cost the life of the Queen. He rather stretched out his sceptre towards Esther and asked her if she wanted up to half of his kingdom, that he was willing to give it to her (Esther 5:2-3). The countenance of Jehovah on the Queen caused the King to look with favour on the Queen.

A lot of people are yet to understand that favour is a spiritual thing. In the physical realm, it can be manifested as plenty of goodies and can cause your barn to overflow. Whatever be the physical manifestations, favour is a spiritual force. Isaac, before he pronounced the blessing of favour said, "*bring me venison that I may eat, that my soul may bless you*" (Genesis 27:25 KJV). He never said that my hand may bless you, it was not a physical thing, it flowed from the spirit within him.

Just like you have the labour market, you also have the favour market. In the labour market, you buy labour with money. But in the favour market, you buy with spiritual currencies. I am going to be showing you some of the spiritual currencies with which you can purchase favour from the spirit

realm.

When God was talking in the Scripture, He said, "**Come and buy without money...**" (**Isaiah 55:1**). In that Scripture, God was referring to a currency higher than money, which is the spiritual currency. That Scripture in Isaiah never said, "Come and take it free..." It rather says, "Come and buy without money" that is to say, there was a price tag on that thing, but it was beyond money. So you needed to make the purchase with something bigger than money, i.e., a spiritual currency.

One day, God was talking with me and He said, "It is what money cannot buy that commands money". I am going to throw more light on that when I deliver the message on **BUYING WITHOUT MONEY**.

There are three spiritual currencies that can put the countenance of Jehovah on you and they are as follows:

(1) PRIESTLY BLESSING

When God was talking to the priests of Israel (Aaron and his sons), He told them to release the countenance of Jehovah upon the people by pronouncing these words on them; "The Lord lift up His countenance upon you..." (**Numbers 6:26**).

You need to understand what it means to draw from the priest over your life. There are blessings that are tied to the priest that God has placed over your life that you can never get from any other place. It is spiritually orchestrated. That is the will of the Father. That is the reason Jesus our High Priest had to send the ten lepers to their priests for them to be completely cleansed of their leprosy (**Luke 17:14**).

Take a closer look at what happened in the case of Hannah. A lot of people are aware of her prayer at the temple but do not take cognizance of the priestly dimension that contributed to the release of her miracle. Eli the priest spoke over her as she was travailing in prayer. He said to her, "**Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of Him**" (**1 Samuel 1:17**). That was Eli using his priestly office to stamp her request as done. The scripture says it was after then that she got up, ate and went home, and her face was no longer downcast (**1 Samuel 1:18**). She then proceeded to have her miracle children.

Some of your prayer requests have remained unanswered because you are yet to honour the priest that God had placed over you. Nothing attracts dishonour to your life like you dishonouring your priest. Miriam was afflicted with leprosy because she dishonoured Moses (**Numbers 12:9-10**). And in the Jewish tradition, nothing can be as dishonouring as leprosy; one with leprosy is seen as unclean and isolated from others (**Numbers 12:15**). God likened Miriam's case to that of someone whose father spat on her (**Numbers 12:14**). It was that dishonouring! While the ten lepers were healed of leprosy on their way to honour their priest, Miriam caught leprosy by dishonouring her priest. Life has a way of honouring those that honour their priests. The leprosy of the land is always with them that dishonour their priests.

One of the ways to honour your priest is to bless him with material things (**1 Corinthians 9:11**). I have always practised that, and it has brought me tremendous blessings. Even as a priest, I also have a priest over my life.

You can also tap into what God had put in your priest for you by believing in him. That scripture says "**believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**" (**2 Chronicles 20:20**). You must also learn to obey your priest as rebellion could result in trouble. The Israelites experienced some form of trouble whenever they rebelled against Moses (**Numbers 14:10-11**). Your life is bound to be ten times better when you have a God-given priest that speaks over you (**Numbers 6:26**). You are as good as the priest that speaks over you. It's a spiritual mystery.

2. WAITING UPON THE LORD

Moses waited upon the Lord for forty days and forty nights on Mount Sinai, and as he came down from the mountain, he carried a great measure of the dimension of the countenance of Jehovah so much so that the Israelites could not gaze upon him (**Exodus 34:29-35**).

To wait upon the Lord is to steadily look upon His countenance. And in the spirit realm, it is what you look upon that you reflect. The scripture says that "**those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame**" (**Psalm 34:5 NIV**). That Scripture was referring to those that had their

gaze on God as they waited upon Him, and so, reflected His countenance. That was what it meant by their faces being radiant. Their faces reflected the light of God's countenance.

There are some prayers you shouldn't be saying if you truly understand what it means to carry the countenance of Jehovah. You see some Christians spend three hours in prayer on daily basis and all they do is bind witches. They spend hours mentioning the name of witches without really waiting upon God for even a second. If you truly wait on God, you will carry God's countenance and witches will cease to be your prayer point.

The angel that appeared in the prison where Peter was bound with heavy metals never said a word of prayer in the prison. He only appeared with the countenance of Jehovah and the chains fell off Peter's hands and feet. Nothing reduces the number of prayer points like carrying the countenance of Jehovah. The angel of God appeared in the prison, and the light shined and the chains on Peter's feet fell off on their own (**Acts 12:7**). The light that shined in the prison as that angel of God appeared was the countenance of Jehovah that the angel came with. He must have been God's messenger angel that waited upon God by always standing in God's presence to look upon His countenance.

Angel Gabriel introduced himself as one who waited upon God when he said, "***I am Gabriel, I stand in God's presence...***" (**Luke 1:19**). Mary saw the same angel and was afraid at first, because of the countenance of Jehovah he radiated (**Luke 1:30**).

After waiting upon God, I went to do a ministration somewhere, and as I mounted the podium to preach, a lady said she saw the cloud of God's glory standing over me. I wasn't seeing the cloud myself, just like Moses was not seeing the light of God's glory that radiated from his face. The Bible says that Moses was not aware that his face was radiant (**Exodus 34:29**). You don't need to see God's countenance that you radiate, all you need do is to keep radiating it as a result of waiting upon God.

Jesus Christ, after waiting upon God, appeared with the countenance of Jehovah, and demons were begging Him not to send them into the abyss (**Luke 8:31**). No demon was a prayer point to Jesus, talk less of witches. And Scripture says "***As He (Christ) is, so are you in this world***" (**1 John 4:17**). But why

are so many "Christians" never like Christ? It's because they don't wait on God. They lack the spiritual currency of waiting on God.

You can recite some prayers for hours without really waiting upon God, and at the end of the day, you come out famished. Scriptures never said that it is those that recite prayers that shall renew their strength. It rather says that it is they that wait upon the Lord that shall renew their strength (**Isaiah 40:31**). Reciting prayers and waiting on God are two different things.

Christ may not appear to you in person. However, you can see Him in the Word of God as you meditate upon it and still carry the same countenance of Jehovah as the one Christ chose to appear to face to face. Moses spoke with God face to face (**Exodus 33:11**). Samuel had God speak with Him via the revealed word (**1 Samuel 3:21**). And they were both powerful prophets. This is where a lot of Christians miss it. You don't tell God how He must speak to you, you should rather master how God had chosen to be speaking to you.

Meditating on God's Word is one of the most powerful ways you can wait on God. God's Word is God (**John 1:1**). Therefore, the one that meditates upon God's Word gazes upon God. He is bound to reflect the countenance of Jehovah. Don't let anyone make it look as if it is a difficult thing to wait upon God.

A brother once told me of how he finished praying and told God that Christ must appear to him. He slept off while he was waiting for Christ to appear to him. And all of a sudden, he noticed some foul spiritual presence step into his room and was pressing his head against his pillow. It is not a wrong thing to desire the apparition of Christ, but you can also open negative spiritual portals to yourself when you don't know or chose to despise the format that God had chosen to speak to you.

Kenneth Hagin had many apparitions of Christ, and nonetheless, he never built his relationship with God around any of them. He rather built his relationship with God on the Word of God. After Moses and Elijah appeared on the mountain of transfiguration, the disciples wanted to build their tent around that apparition, but Jesus never gave them the go-ahead (**Luke 9:33**).

Some people had pegged their tents where God had

departed from, all in the name of previous apparitions.

3. RIGHTEOUS LIVING

Jesus talked about your righteousness exceeding that of the Pharisee if you must enter the kingdom of heaven; “*For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisee, you shall never enter into the kingdom of heaven”* (Matthew 5:20). What that scripture is trying to teach us is that the currency of righteousness can help you get some things that money cannot buy.

The man that fears God is said to be righteous. The scripture says that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom (**Proverbs 9:10**). It, therefore, means that righteousness can give you access to wisdom. God will always share the secret things of the kingdom with those that fear Him.

The Bible refers to Jesus Christ as the wisdom of God(**1 Corinthians 1:24**). When He was to be born into the world, He had to be conceived of a righteous virgin. Christ, the wisdom of God, was inside a righteous vessel. Wisdom will always reside in righteousness. Mary had righteousness as a spiritual currency. She was no ordinary woman. Righteousness moves your life from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

Until you understand what it means to be a righteous vessel, there are secrets of God that He can never shear with you. Otherwise, it would be like casting pearls before pigs. That is exactly how the scripture puts it (**Matthew 7:6**). Righteousness opens your

spirit man to a point where it can download certain dimensions of God. God does not pour holy secrets into dirty vessels.

Look through the scripture and you will discover that all the men that had access to the secrets of God were righteous. Daniel was so righteous that he would not defile himself with the king’s meat(**Daniel 1:8**). And all the divine secrets of God were with him in his generation. That was why he was the only one that could interpret what the angel of the Lord wrote on the wall concerning king Nebuchadnezzar (**Daniel 5:5-12**). Righteousness is a spiritual capital that gives you access to divine secrets.

Joseph, the righteous vessel of God would not defy himself with Potiphar’s wife. And when Pharaoh had a scary dream that needed an interpretation, it was Joseph that had access to the divine secrets with which he interpreted Pharaoh’s dream.

In the days of king Nebuchadnezzar, there was handwriting on the wall that he could not interpret. Pharaoh on the other hand had a dream that he could not interpret. They were all kings, but they could not handle such issues, because they didn’t have righteousness, the spiritual capital needed to access divine secrets. They had to look for men like Daniel and Joseph, who were men with the righteousness of God in them.

Righteousness would make you a problem solver to kings. A wise man once said, “you don’t stop until your audience are kings”. Righteousness is one of the major spiritual currencies that will cause kings of the earth to bow to you and become your audience. When the scripture said ”**kings shall come to your light...**(Isaiah 60:3) it was referring to the righteous.

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