

## Living in the Favor of God

Most of us spend our lives wishing for the favor of God. *"Oh that you would bless me!"* is often the cry of our hearts when we pray. But in reality we walk about with a mental shroud of gloom and rejection. We don't feel blessed. We often feel cheated and shortchanged by life. We don't feel like God cares all the time.

We are like Joe Btfsplk from the Li'l Abner cartoon by Al Capp:



Joe Btfsplk, the world's worst jinx, had a perpetually dark rain cloud over his head; instantaneous bad luck befell anyone unfortunate enough to be in his vicinity. Though well-meaning and friendly, his reputation inevitably precedes him, so Joe is a very lonely little man. He has an apparently unpronounceable name, but creator Al Capp "pronounced" Btfsplk by simply blowing a "raspberry", or Bronx cheer. Joe's personal black cloud became one of the most memorable images in the Li'l Abner cartoon strip.

We are children of the King. We are joint-heir with Christ. We are seated with Christ in heavenly places. Let's think like it, act like it, feel like it, live like it. There is a reason God chose to call us "believers." What is it we believe?

Our thoughts betray us. If we are feeling like paupers it is because we are not believing what God says, but rather what the enemy has sown in our cheated hearts. The Scripture says, *"As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."* What are you thinking in your heart today? *"Let this mind be in you that was also in our Lord Jesus Christ."*

**Are you thinking like a favored child of God, or like rejected petitioner?**

*"As a man thinking his heart, so is he."*

Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the thoughts I think toward you," declares the Lord, "thoughts to prosper you, and not to harm you, thoughts to give you a future and a hope."*

**You can choose God's favor by living under the umbrella of his grace,  
or you can choose to walk under a cloud of doubt and despair.**

**The choice is yours.**