
FAVOR
ATTENTION
APPROVAL
ACTION


300+
TIMES SCRIPTURE SPEAKS OF FAVOR

FAVOR DEFINED

God's

Attention
Approval
Action

toward those He loves.

פְּנִיתָ — Attention

רָצוֹן — Approval

חֵן — Action

FAVOR

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. 2 The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there. 3 Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

Ruth 1:1–5 (NIV)

FAVOR

6 When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of
his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-
law prepared to return home from there. 7 With her two daughters-
in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on
the road that would take them back to the land of Judah. 8 Then
Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back, each of you, to
your mother’s home. May the Lord show you kindness, as you have
shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. 9 May the Lord
grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another
husband.” Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud 10
and said to her, “We will go back with you to your people.”

Ruth 1:6–10 (NIV)

FAVOR

[11] But Naomi said, “Return home, my daughters. Why would you
come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could
become your husbands? [12] Return home, my daughters; I am
too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still
hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave
birth to sons—[13] would you wait until they grew up? Would you
remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter
for me than for you, because the Lord’s hand has turned
against me!” [14] At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed
her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

Ruth 1:11–14 (NIV)

FAVOR

15 “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her
people and her gods. Go back with her.”
16 But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back
from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay.
Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where
you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal
with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and
me.” 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go
with her, she stopped urging her.
Ruth 1:15–18 (NIV)

FAVOR

19 So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, “Can this be Naomi?” 20 “Don’t call me Naomi,” she told them. “Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. 21 I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The Lord has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.” 22 So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.

Ruth 1:19–22 (NIV)

FAVOR

Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, a man of standing from the clan of Elimelek, whose name was Boaz.
2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter." 3 So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.

Ruth 2:1–3 (NIV)

FAVOR

4 Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the
harvesters, “The Lord be with you!” “The Lord bless you!” they
answered. 5 Boaz asked the overseer of his harvesters, “Who
does that young woman belong to?”
6 The overseer replied, “She is the Moabite who came back
from Moab with Naomi. 7 She said, ‘Please let me glean and
gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.’ She came
into the field and has remained here from morning till now,
except for a short rest in the shelter.”

Ruth 2:4-7 (NIV)

FAVOR

[8] So Boaz said to Ruth, “My daughter, listen to me. Don’t go and glean in another field and don’t go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. [9] Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.” [10] At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She asked him, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?”

Ruth 2:8-10 (NIV)

FAVOR

[11] Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. [12] May the Lord repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.” [13] “May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord,” she said. “You have put me at ease by speaking kindly to your servant—though I do not have the standing of one of your servants.”

Ruth 2:11-13 (NIV)

FAVOR

RUTH

Lessons from The Mother of Favor

ATTENTION — APPROVAL — ACTION

To Walk in the Favor of God
We Must Become Unbound by Our Past

“At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She asked him, ‘Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?’ Boaz replied, ‘I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how **you left** *your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before.’”*

RUTH 2:10-11 (NIV)

Left עָזַב *ʿāzab — “to leave, forsake” · to loosen a band*

FAVOR

To Walk in the Favor of God We Must Cling to Jesus and Follow His Way

"At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but **Ruth clung to her**.*"*

RUTH 1:14 (NIV)

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. **Where you go I will go**, *and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and* **your God my God**…*'"*

RUTH 1:16 (NIV)

Clung דָּבַק *dābaq — "stick, bind, hold fast"*

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