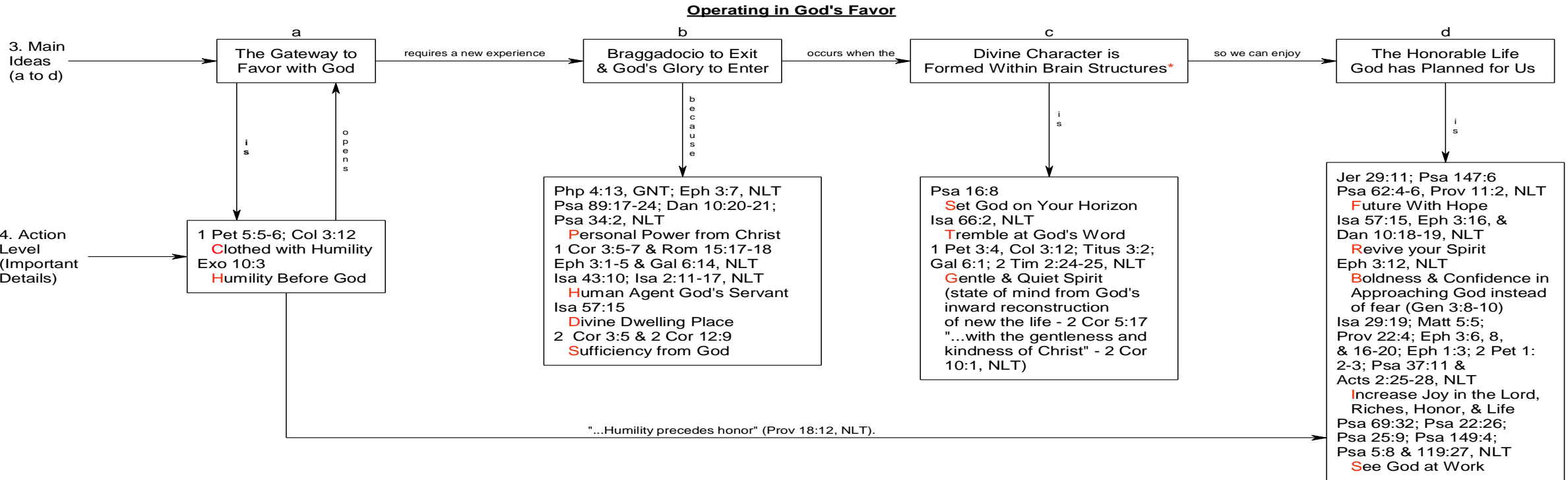


# Procurement of The Practical Benefits of Divine Favor

1. In contemporary usage, favor has a variety of meanings. For example, Merriam Webster tells us it means "approval, support, and preference for one person, group over another." In Biblical hermeneutics, (the science of interpreting what an author has written), favor also has a variety of meanings, which includes "...good will, acceptance, and the benefits flowing from these..." ([www.internationalstandardbible.com/F/favor.html](http://www.internationalstandardbible.com/F/favor.html)). A few contextual examples may help to clarify our understanding of favor. As God prepared Jesus for His earthly ministry, Jesus "...increased in wisdom, ...stature, and favor..." (Luke 2:52, NLT). "...The boy Samuel grew taller and grew in favor with the Lord and with the people" (1 Sam 2:26, NLT). Finally, "Gabriel appeared to [Mary] and said, 'Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!' Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. 'Don't be afraid Mary, ...for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus'" (Luke 1:28-31, NLT). Clearly, from the foregoing, it is possible for mortals to have favor with God? However, merely reading about favor with God does not bequeath it. How then can a person have favor with God? That question defines the focus and purpose of this study.

2. Your memory aid for this study is **FWGP**, having favor with God and people. One answer to the question comes from the chart below. Follow along as we navigate from 3 to 4. At level three, you have the study in a nutshell. At level four, we explore the details encapsulated at level three.



**Definitions (What do these words mean?):**

**Clothed** is to be endowed with a particular quality, trait, or attribute ([www.thefreedictionary.com](http://www.thefreedictionary.com))

**Humility** is meekness (Rom 12:3), denoted by self-subjugation (1 Cor 9:27 & Php 2:3-5). It is a willingness to forgo honor or prestige when you have a right to either one or both (Php 2:6-8 & Luke 14:7-10)

**Meekness**, (Gk praus) is NOT weakness, but *strength under control*. Two examples include *bridled restraint under provocation* (John 18:22-23), and *patience under trials* (Job 1:18-22)

**Trust** is belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of (Num 11:23; Isa 59:1, & Rom 4:18, GNT)

**Sufficiency** is an adequate amount of something (Neh 9:21, Luke 22:35, & 1 Thes 4:12)

**Pride** is "...pleasure taken in one's own or another's success or achievements..." ([www.thefreedictionary.com](http://www.thefreedictionary.com)) that does NOT give God the glory (Isa 43:7 & Eccles 12:13)

**Arrogance** is an "offensive display of superiority or self-importance..." ([www.thefreedictionary.com](http://www.thefreedictionary.com))

\***Cerebral Cortex** "plays a key role in memory, attention, perceptual awareness, thought, language and consciousness" ([www.human-memory.net/brain\\_parts.html](http://www.human-memory.net/brain_parts.html)).

\***Hippocampus** is part of the limbic system, which resides "...deep within the median temporal lobe, is essential for memory function..." ([www.human-memory.net/brain\\_parts.html](http://www.human-memory.net/brain_parts.html)).