

Chapter 1 : Why was Lucifer God's favorite angel? : Christianity

MEANS You Are God's Favorite! God's smile is upon you. You light up his face as much as anyone has ever lit up a lover's face. (This important webpage is also available in Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Danish, Bemba, and Afrikaans).

I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me--and I in him--bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing John I no longer call you slaves, because the slave does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I have revealed to you everything I heard from my Father John But they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus Romans 3: We know that our old man was crucified with him so that the body of sin would no longer dominate us, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin Romans 6: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus Romans 8: For the law of the life-giving Spirit in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death Romans 8: And if children, then heirs namely, heirs of God and also fellow heirs with Christ --if indeed we suffer with him so we may also be glorified with him Romans 8: See also Ephesians 1: He is the reason you have a relationship with Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption

â€ 1 Corinthians 1: But the one united with the Lord is one spirit with him 1 Corinthians 6: But thanks be to God who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and who makes known through us the fragrance that consists of the knowledge of him in every place 2 Corinthians 2: But their minds were closed. For to this very day, the same veil remains when they hear the old covenant read. So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; what is old has passed away--look, what is new has come 2 Corinthians 5: God made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we would become the righteousness of God 2 Corinthians 5: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female--for all of you are one in Christ Jesus Galatians 3: So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if you are a son, then you are also an heir through God Galatians 4: For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be subject again to the yoke of slavery Galatians 5: Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms in Christ Ephesians 1: For he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that we may be holy and unblemished in his sight in love Ephesians 1: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace Ephesians 1: And when you heard the word of truth the gospel of your salvation --when you believed in Christ--you were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit Ephesians 1: But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love with which he loved us, even though we were dead in transgressions, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you are saved Ephesians 2: For we are his workmanship, having been created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared beforehand so we may do them Ephesians 2: But now in Christ Jesus you who used to be far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ Ephesians 2: See also Ephesians 5: Walk as children of the light Ephesians 5: But our citizenship is in heaven--and we also await a savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ

â€ Philippian 3: And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus Philippians 4: And my God will supply your every need according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus Philippians 4: Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God Colossians 3: When Christ who is your life appears, then you too will be revealed in glory with him Colossians 3: Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with a heart of mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience

â€ Colossians 3: We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you

â€ 1 Thessalonians 1: The more we embrace these truths from Scripture about who we have become in Christ, the more stable, grateful, and fully assured we will be in this world.

Chapter 2 : Psalm - MSG - I'm God's favorite. He made me king of the mountain

my dear friend, Missy Koepf www.nxgvision.com are ALWAYS a blessing to me. ðŸ™, Thanks for being so personal - so transparent. So many are willing to talk about life in 'biblical concepts', but you take that extra step of faith by bringing it down to the real life, real pain, real peace, real questions we bring before Abba Father.

It is this disciple who, while reclining beside Jesus at the Last Supper, asks Jesus who it is that will betray him, after being requested by Peter to do so. The two men rush to the empty tomb and the Beloved Disciple is the first to reach it. However, Peter is the first to enter. For example, in Luke Matthew, Mark, and Luke do not mention any one of the 12 disciples having witnessed the crucifixion. Also, the New Testament makes two references to an unnamed "other disciple" in John 1: Polycrates believed that John was the one "who reclined upon the bosom of the Lord"; suggesting an identification with the Beloved Disciple: John, who was both a witness and a teacher, "who reclined upon the bosom of the Lord", and, being a priest, wore the sacerdotal plate. He fell asleep at Ephesus. Unger presents a case for this by a process of elimination. However, he cautions that "in the code John the Evangelist was bedfellow to Christ and leaned always in his bosom, that he used him as the sinners of Sodom". Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Also relevant according to Ben Witherington III [22] is the fact that the character of the Beloved Disciple is not mentioned before the raising of Lazarus Lazarus being raised in John 11, while the Beloved Disciple is first mentioned in John Frederick Baltz [23] asserts that the Lazarus identification, the evidence suggesting that the Beloved Disciple was a priest, and the ancient John tradition are all correct. Baltz says the family of the children of Boethus, known from Josephus and rabbinic literature, is the same family we meet in the 11th chapter of the Gospel: Lazarus, Martha, and Mary of Bethany. This is a beloved family, according to John He closely matches the description given by Bishop Polycrates in his letter, a sacrificing priest who wore the petalon i. This John "the Elder" was a follower of Jesus referred to by Papias of Hierapolis, and an eyewitness to his ministry. He was the right age to have lived until the time of Trajan according to Irenaeus. Both scenes are claimed to have inconsistencies both internally and in reference to the synoptic Gospels. In the Gospel of Mary, part of the New Testament apocrypha "specifically the Gnostic gospels uncovered at Nag Hammadi" a certain Mary who is commonly identified as Mary Magdalene is constantly referred to as being loved by Jesus more than the others. Whiteley, who deduced that the Beloved Disciple was the host at the last supper. Gerd Theissen and Annette Merz suggest the testimony may have come from a lesser known disciple, perhaps from Jerusalem. Tabor [31] argues that the Beloved Disciple is James, brother of Jesus the type of relative to Jesus, brother or cousin, depends on how one translates the word. One of several pieces of evidence Tabor offers is a literal interpretation of John Reasons for concealing the identity by name[edit] St John at Patmos by Pieter Paul Rubens Theories about the reference usually include an attempt to explain why this anonymizing idiom is used at all, rather than stating an identity. Suggestions accounting for this are numerous. One common proposal is that the author concealed his name due simply to modesty. The author may have been a highly placed person in Jerusalem who was hiding his affiliation with Christianity, [29] or the anonymity may have been appropriate for one living the withdrawn life of an ascetic, and one of the many unnamed disciples in the Gospel may have been either the Beloved Disciple himself or others under his guidance, who out of the humility of their ascetic commitment hid their identity or subsumed their witness under that of their spiritual master. Smith, a member of the Society of St. Perhaps the disciple is never named, never individualized, so that we can more easily accept that he bears witness to an intimacy that is meant for each one of us. The closeness that he enjoyed is a sign of the closeness that is mine and yours because we are in Christ and Christ is in us. Many artists have given different interpretations of John

Chapter 3 : God's Favorite Color? | Living in Truth Ministries

10 So listen! and be kind! Help me out of this!" Help me out of this!" 11 You did it: you changed wild lament into whirling dance; You ripped off my black mourning band and decked me with wildflowers.

Dave Burchett I love my pastor and his family. That is a such a blessing to be able to say that. Jeff Denton brought his unique blend of wisdom, geekiness, humor, grace, leadership, Biblical truth and pastoral care to Wylie, Texas several years ago. Waterbrook Bible Fellowship will never be the same and that is a very good thing. Our church has four amazing and gifted pastors on staff with Jeff as the Lead Pastor. Check it out if you are churchless in Collin County. You never know what Jeff will say or post online. He is totally out there as a pastor, husband and dad. Recently he shared this exchange with one of his teenagers. I know that Jeff said that with his tongue firmly in cheek and whichever child responded with a sly smile. What I have come to see in the Denton family and our Waterbrook family is something radically different from that playful exchange. The truth of our community and any healthy church community is that being the favorite comes from something other than our performance and obedience. It has nothing to do with our performance. It has everything to do with Jesus performance for us. I am a recovering legalist so this has been a struggle for me. We should not be surprised that people respond positively when they are told how much they matter. More important, we matter to God. His Word is full of affirmation for those who choose to trust Him. To all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Even when those around you are failing to fill up your affirmation bucket, you can still go to Scripture and find out how God feels about you. Is there a more important affirmation than that? When you believe that your heavenly Father recognizes your worth, it gets easier to find things to affirm in others. How can I suffer from a poor self-image if this is true? It is so hard for me to believe that His one way love toward me never changes. His love for me happened long before I even knew my desperate need for a Savior. But God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. It is a complete paradigm shift from my early teaching. Now I serve in obedience out of gratitude and joy. Before I tried to be obedient to avoid punishment or loss of my very soul. What a difference to believe that at the Cross Jesus made me and you His favorite. If you are a follower of Jesus I have some really good news.

Chapter 4 : Disciple whom Jesus loved - Wikipedia

I am His favorite when I obey and I am His favorite when I don't obey. It is so hard for me to believe that His one way love toward me never changes. His love for me happened long before I even knew my desperate need for a Savior.

Does He sit on the pew and enjoy the pipe organ concert, or enjoy the breeze when people wave their arms in worship? Does He admire the woodwork or majestic stained glass in the church? Is He excited about the large-denomination bills in the offering plate? The wisteria has become a riot of heavy flower spikes, whose scent competes with jasmine and citrus blossoms for an intoxication of the senses. The bees and hummingbirds are hovering in the blooming trees, and the finches and mockingbirds are building nests in the thickets of roses and bougainvillea. Spring is a time of transformation. Seeds miraculously swell and send tiny green buds through the soil. Eggs hatch, and baby birds open beaks larger than their bodies. Worms, caterpillars, and insects are metamorphosed into completely different creatures than one might expect. Mammals are born heartbreakingly cute. What is not to enjoy about spring? Why did you have children? To prop up your feet, do your chores, bring you meals and gifts of money, sing to you? Well, if those were your reasons, you already know how that expectation turned out! You had children because you had love to give, and experience and heritage to pass on. You loved your child before you saw it draw its first breath. You loved that little stinker or angel more as time went on, for every reason and no reason. And if a parent can love that way, how much more does our Father in heaven love? He loves to think of you. And plan for you. And do for you. I found my lost coin! He rose for you. He has prepared a life plan for you, complete with joy and grief, partings and reunions, family and strangers, ease and rough going. When you leave Him in the dust, He watches anxiously for you and breaks into a run to meet you at the first hint of your turning. His entire ambition is to bring you back to His immediate presence, where He, Emmanuel, will personally wipe away all your tears and glorify you. He wants to revel in you, ruffle your hair, put His arms around you, and kick up heels and dance for joy. This is a shocking concept because we tend to think that "God so loved the world" the world as in, everybody in a vast blob. But God loved this entire creation of individuals, from when time began for our ancestors, now, and into future eternity. When we put others first in our esteem, and have that sense of communion and unity in Christ, we are obeying the commandment of God to love the Lord with all our hearts and minds and souls, and to love others "as ourselves." Passed over for death, their resurrection to newness of life meant that they walked out of their Egyptian tomb and religion of death, under a full moon, balmy breezes carrying spring flower perfumes, led by a pillar of cloud and fire. When the Passover Lamb was slain on that Friday years later, the Temple veil was torn from top to bottom. He always keeps his word. He died for me, an extremely flawed person that He created in His own image to just love. And He died for many billions of individuals who were just as undeserving as I am. Say to one friend, one family member, one co-worker, that you love them. Say it on Easter weekend and the days following. And when they respond with surprise and wonder, just think what Jesus is doing: Not a planet of anonymous, faceless people. His greatest joy and most valuable treasure is you. You cannot be replaced. That is good news. That is the gospel. Go tell one person. But it will make you an evangelist, a messenger of good news. And it will bear fruit!

Chapter 5 : Discovering Love: God's favorite things

Yours, beloved, is His favorite. So, Sis, look at yourself today and in the days to come, as nothing other than the Daughter of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Psalm says, " For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.

To God, you are special. Four reasons why God favors no one over you 1. God loves you with his whole heart. He loves you with every speck of his enormous love. A woman wrote about the above paragraph: Grantley, you exaggerate too much! I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. When praying for all his followers, including those who would believe later verse 20 Jesus declared that God loves them me! So the only thing I can do is go through it, absorbing it as I go. I drifted to sleep last night snuggling into that verse. Scripture makes no promise that you will always feel loved, nor that circumstances will always make it obvious that you are loved. God simply promises that you are loved. A snap-shot in time proves nothing. The more you love someone the more important that person is to you. So the fact that God loves you with his whole heart means you are more important to God than you could ever imagine. Before God forgave us we were all spiritually dead. Scripture affirms that every person on this planet was dead in their sin. But through Christ we can be forgiven. So without Christ we were all equally dead in our sin and in Christ we are all equally forgiven. If God could only use young people, or strong people, or rich people, or famous people, or educated people, then God must be so weak that he needs human strength; so poor that he needs us to give him a few dollars; so foolish that he needs human education. The Lord loves using small and seemingly unimportant things. Not many of you were wise by human standards. Not many of you had great influence. Not many of you came from important families. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and he chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose what this world thinks is unimportant and what this world looks down on and thinks is nothing in order to bring to nothing what the world thinks is important. I often feel like that: But the Bible would be very much poorer without this tiny book. And the Kingdom of God would be much poorer without you. In this tiny book we see God using a storm, a whale, a heartless, rebellious, moody man, a plant, and a grub. Are you less gifted than a grub? Then God can do mighty things through you. If God could use a storm and a plant and a grub, God is smart enough to use you. God is so powerful he can use anything to do his work. No Christian is too old, too poor, too uneducated, too stupid, too sick to be gloriously used of God. For just one aspect of this, see Never too old for God. Do you believe there is nothing God cannot do? Do you believe God could bring a dead person back to life? Do you believe God could bring a dead person back to life through your prayers? Do you believe God can save thousands of souls? Then you must also believe God can save thousands of souls through you. No one is more important to God than you are: Bible proofs In the book of Galatians 2: When Jesus walked this planet they seemed his closest friends. Later they were called the pillars of the church. Without pillars the whole building collapses. Even his shadow healed people. So anyone who obeys God has as much right to speak with Jesus, as Mary has. Jesus was born only once. So only one woman could have the privilege of giving birth to the Messiah. But spiritually, we are all equally blessed. How could it be otherwise? Almost anyone could do a better job than a little child, but that was irrelevant. To him you are irreplaceable. The Almighty needs the help of no one. My grandpa wanted me to share in his work. Not because he needed me, but because I was special to him. And God wants you to share in his work. God has something of divine importance; something of eternal significance that he wants you to help him with. I used to think yeah, yeah God loves me, but he loves everyone. I thought I was being humble thinking this way. But what I was really doing was accusing God of imperfect love. In fact, I was calling God a liar. God says he loves you. So to believe that you are unimportant to God is to believe that God is a liar. There is nothing humble about calling the holy Lord a liar! God is the most important person in the universe. So if you are important to him, you are important! He died for me! I need to feel as bad about that sin as if I were guilty of murder. But he kept killing. He got to the point where he could kill a man, use the corpse as a pillow and sleep soundly all night. We are like that. We have

committed the sin of wrong thinking so often that our consciences have become as hard as concrete. For other sins our consciences have might still be soft but to the sin of doubt and small thinking, we are hardened. Lepers lose fingers, toes, sometimes noses. It was always thought the disease did this. But a brilliant medical missionary began to question this. Dr Paul Brand noticed that lepers would go to bed whole and wake up without a finger. No one could ever find a trace of the missing finger. He eventually discovered that the fingers were being chewed off and carried away by rats! However could this happen? We have lost feeling in part of our conscience. We desperately need God to make our consciences sensitive. The crunch We now come to the most crucial part of this message. This message could give you a boost for a few days, then fade and ultimately achieve nothing. Or it could be the turning point in your life, making you the powerful force in the kingdom of God that you were created to be. To rid ourselves of this sin will probably cost us enormously, but for us to be freed from sin cost Christ far more. For us to give up the sin of small thinking is as hard as it is for an alcoholic to permanently give up drink. We need a gigantic miracle in our personal lives. It begins by admitting that we are addicted to the serious sin of not seeing ourselves and our possibilities as God sees them. We must hate this sin. We must admit that we are such a slave to this sin that the only way we can be freed is by a divine miracle. I suggest the following prayer. Pray any part of it that you feel you can agree with. Lord in your mercy begin to open my mind and my conscience to the seriousness of my sin. I have sinned in thinking you have favorites. My addiction to small thinking has hurt you and done enormous damage.

Chapter 6 : God loves you! You are God's favorite

So I must be God's favorite child! God treats us each one of us like we are His favorite daughter or son. He orchestrates our lives and the lives of those around us in such a way as to enable us to accomplish His plans and purposes for our lives.

Have you ever questioned, looking at others and then yourself, whether God loves you as much as them? Of course, the flipside of this is to realize that you have a roof over your head, when some are living in cardboard boxes. You have people in your life who love you, while there are lonely people without any support. Even when it sometimes feels like it! Accepting the fact that God is in control, knows your situation, and has not moved mountains or waved a magic wand to change your circumstances is a tough place to get to—especially if you are in the midst of struggle. Some of our greatest blessings, too. Our first child was stillborn. Sara Ann had been born five days before her due date, perfect in every way except for the umbilical cord wrapped tightly around her neck. In those moments of not understanding why? Sometimes it means clinging to it by the tips of our fingernails, holding onto the edge of the cliff, praying for God to intervene. Loss, betrayal, evil, injustice. And here is where the blessing steps in: God can take the worst of circumstances and bring good from them. The hole in my heart from the loss of our son Joel has never been filled or replaced. While comforted by the knowledge of where they are, I will long for my son and granddaughter to the end of my days. And yet here is the blessing that the Lord has given me through all of this—a deep, abiding joy and gratitude for my other children and grandchildren. It is not that I love them more, or would have loved them less—but I have a knowledge and appreciation of what true gifts their lives are to me. But God does not change. But God so loved. Yes, He loves Jesus and His other children. But He loves me just as much. In fact, I might be His favorite child after all.

Chapter 7 : Song of Solomon My beloved is mine and I am his; he pastures his flock among the lilies.

I am so glad that He cares for me and when I wander away, He WANTS ME TO COME BACK He loves me and I don't want to break His heart anymore, because God keeps His promises and so we should keep our promise not to sin.

And was Satan also the first angel that God created? Was Lucifer the first angel God created? My middle son asked me questions I could not answer. Children ask the most interesting questions, and often we confuse them by offering correct but complicated answers when a simple, straightforward explanation is best. This is how I would respond to the questions your middle son has asked: God just made them, probably all at the same time. At the time God created them, they were complete and wonderful. They were never baby angels and they never had to grow up. God created Satan as one of the best and most beautiful angels, but instead of being thankful, Satan became proud. He thought he was better than everyone, even God. Instead of loving God and doing what God planned, Satan began to fight God and tried to get other angels to sin. Even now he tries to get people to sin. My belief is that Lucifer was the first angel--the most powerful, most beautiful, and most intelligent angel to have ever been created, which is why his sin was pride. Others say that Michael was the first and most powerful angel. I understand that Michael fought Lucifer and one-third of the fallen angels until they left heaven to live on earth. Who was created first, Michael or Lucifer? Who is or was the most powerful, beautiful, and smartest angel? Is Lucifer also known as the "Angel of Light"? God created all angels at once, so no angel was created first in time. He commanded and they were created" Psalm The biblical word for the devil is "Satan. When Jerome translated the Bible into Latin, "lucifer" was the Latin word for "morning star.

Chapter 8 : HOW TO GET CLOSER TO GOD | NaijaHow

Agapetos means beloved, esteemed, worthy of love—God's favorite. Our amazing God and Creator has made each one of us exactly as we're supposed to be and He calls us esteemed, beloved, worthy of His love.

Pulpit Commentary Verse These are the words of the bride. The latter clause is repeated in Song of Solomon 6: The words may be taken as either the response given at the time by the maiden to the invitation of her lover to come forth into the vineyards, or as the breathing of love as she lies in the arms of Solomon. Lilies are the emblem of purity, lofty elevation above that which is common. Moreover, the lily stalk is the symbol of the life of regeneration among the mystical mediaevalists. Mary the Virgin, the Rosa mystica, in ancient paintings is represented with a lily in her hand at the Annunciation. The people of God were called by the Jewish priests "a people of lilies. Some would render the words as simply praise of Solomon himself, "who, wherever he abides, spreads radiance and loveliness about him," or "in whose footsteps roses and lilies ever bloom. She herself is a lily, and the beloved one feeds upon her beauty, purity, and perfection. Matthew Henry Commentary 2: Christ is the Rock, in whom alone she can think herself safe, and find herself easy, as a dove in the hole of a rock, when struck at by the birds of prey. Christ calls her to come boldly to the throne of grace, having a great High Priest there, to tell what her request is. Speak freely, fear not a slight or a repulse. The voice of prayer is sweet and acceptable to God; those who are sanctified have the best comeliness. The first risings of sinful thoughts and desires, the beginnings of trifling pursuits which waste the time, trifling visits, small departures from truth, whatever would admit some conformity to the world; all these, and many more, are little foxes which must be removed. This is a charge to believers to mortify their sinful appetites and passions, which are as little foxes, that destroy their graces and comforts, and crush good beginnings. Whatever we find a hinderance to us in that which is good, we must put away. He is kind to all his people. It becomes them to believe this, when under desertion and absence, and so to ward off temptations. The shadows of the Jewish dispensation were dispelled by the dawning of the gospel day. And a day of comfort will come after a night of desertion. Come over the mountains of Bether, the mountains that divide, looking forward to that day of light and love. Christ will come over every separating mountain to take us home to himself.

Chapter 9 : The Beloved of the Lord Dwell in Safety | Share A Verse

www.nxgvision.com - Remember--through a beloved children's song--who you really are a child of God. Read our blog post ab.