

Sunday
1-6-19 A.M.

The Favor of God

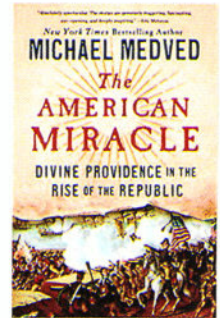
Eph. 2:1-9

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

The American Miracle Testifies to the Favor of God

Our nation's founders could not ignore the repeated proofs of divine favor in the formation of America. Michael Medved did an amazing amount of detailed historical research to show the unavoidable conclusion that God had favored our formation.



America's Great Seal is a Perpetual Reminder of God's Favor

On the front of our nation's seal the eagle is under a golden burst through the clouds of thirteen new stars in the blue sky. Thirteen obviously represents our original thirteen colonies; and their number is repeated with thirteen stripes, arrows, olives, and olive leaves. On the back, there are thirteen rows of stone in the unfinished pyramid, with the all-seeing eye of God overhead, and the top Latin inscription, "God has favored our undertaking", and the bottom, "A new order of the ages".



God Has Favored Us

Paul reminds us that before God's favor of grace, we were lost and dead in sin. He shows us that God's motive for mercy is simply love. This favor comes to us only through Jesus Christ, who raises us to new life, and gives us new citizenship in His kingdom. Paul also reminds us that the favor of God had nothing to do with our own goodness or good deeds. It has only come to us by grace!

