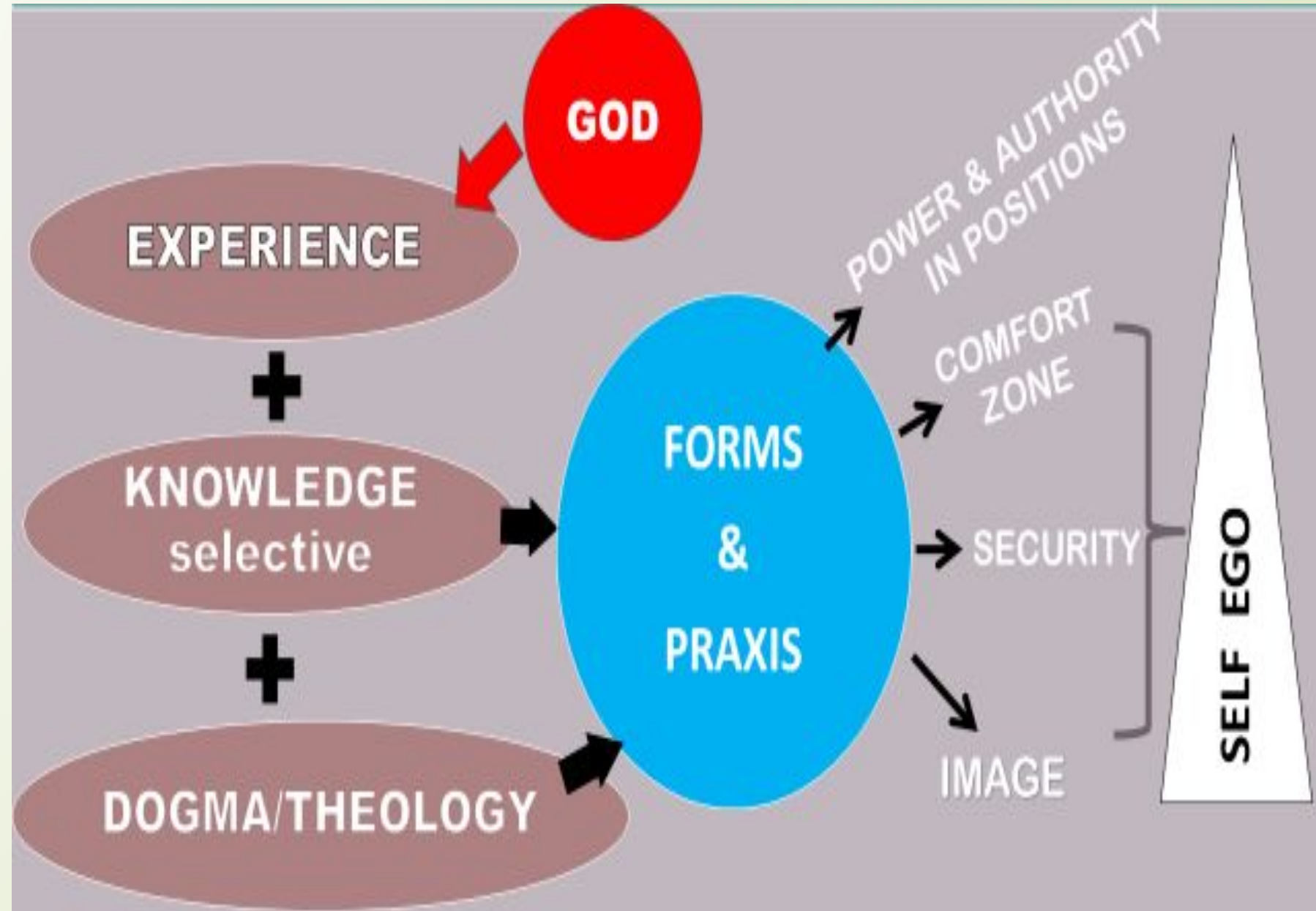
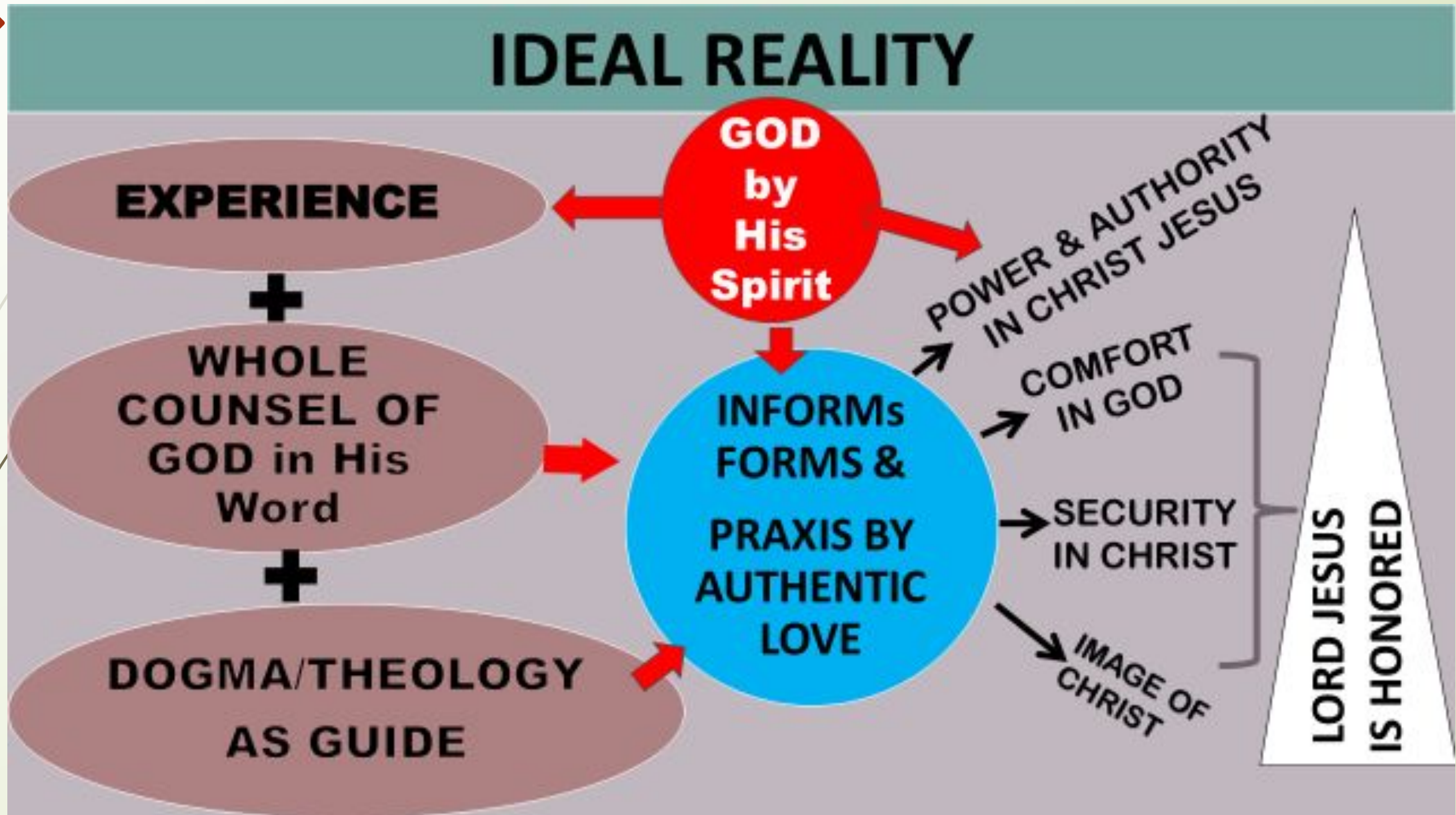


# Introduction

Human Quest  
vs  
God's Ways  
For His Favour



# Christ is Sufficient – Favour of God



# THEME: THE JUBILEE YEAR TO PROCLAIM THE LORDS FAVOUR: RENEWAL, FORGIVENESS, & RESTORATION THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC

## TOPIC: THE LORDS FAVOUR: RENEWAL

### Introduction

1. What is the Lord's Favour? What does it mean?
2. "The Year of the Lord's Favor": Time of Renewal - Restoration
3. Lord's Favour In Christ Jesus Alone

# 1. What is the Lord's Favour? What does it mean?

- "the Lord's favor" is God's unmerited grace, acceptance, and goodwill, as concrete evidence of divine approval and blessing.
- Signifies God's positive regard and Important treatment towards individuals, families, and nations or in the actions that are exerted
- It is not Merited (Isaiah 66:2) "The ones God looks on with favor are those;
  - who are humble and contrite in spirit, and
  - who tremble at my word"

# Lessons from Moses Experience

(Num.20:12-;

- Moses Human Response costs him dearly
  - ❖ v12 But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.” (Num.20:12)
- He says in his prayer, "Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us" (Psalm.90:17)
- Highlighting the importance that favour of God, is unmerited.

# *Favour & Grace of God used Interchangeably*

## **□ Implying God's Unearned favour**


- ❖ humility
- ❖ Contrite spirit
- ❖ Deep desire for God's will

## **□ Some Examples of recipients of God favour**

- ❖ Noah was protected – flood (Gen.6:8)
- ❖ Abraham called God's friend (Gen.12:2, 15:6; Is.41:8; James.2:23)
- ❖ Moses saw the glory of the Lord (Ex.33:11)

## 2. "The Year of the Lord's Favor": Time of Renewal - Restoration

- Israel's Futile Efforts to Merit Favour of God when under threat (Is.36-39)
  - a. Hezekiah's challenging difficult time – sickness leading to death (2Kings 20)
  - b. Through Prayer God rescues, heals and restores his health (2Kings.38:1-7)
  - c. However when he was restored and established (Is.39)
    1. He decided to show off
    2. By establishing bilateral ties



□ Way Forward to Merit Favour of God through Suffering Servant (Is.40-55)

❖ Not on Human Merit (Is.40:30)

□ Wait & Trust in God (Is.40:31)

❖ Let go of the Past - forget former things (Is.43:18-19)

❖ God is doing a New thing (Is.55:8-9)

□ His Ways are not our ways

❖ Only through the Suffering Servant Favour of God is found

□ In "the year of the Lord's favor" Isaiah 61:2

□ Time of redemption and restoration by Messiah



□ Brings forth the renewal and God's favor (Isaiah 61:2-3):

❖ God Judges sin and forgives

□ "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God;

□ to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

❖ to bestow on them

□ crown of beauty instead of ashes,

□ the oil of joy instead of mourning, and

□ a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair."

### 3. Lord's Favour In Christ Jesus Alone -in Humility & Total Submission Chose the Way of the Cross (Is.53; Phil.2:5-11; Jn.13:14-17; 1Corin.11:26-27 )

- A. Through Whom Arm of the Lord is revealed (Is.53)
  - a. Power and authority
  - b. To bring salvation
- B. Humbled Himself & God Exalted Him (Phil.2:5-11)
  - a. Denied Himself - Did not consider equality with God something he should gasp
  - b. Instead humbled Himself took on servanthood
- C. To Receive Favour & Renewal of God (Jn.13:14-17)
  - a. We Emulate Christ Jesus - walk the way of the Cross-
  - b. Denying self, & dead to self, sin and pride

## D. As we break Bread Together on the Table of the Lord

- a. We commit ourselves to refrain from image making, and monument building –glory seeking
  - i. Instead We promote Christ not ourselves and our own forms and praxis
  - ii. In humility, contrition and brokenness
  - iii. we desire and seek God afresh



## b. We Anticipate to Serve Instead as Servants (Jn.13:14-17)

- i. V. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet...
- ii. V. Now you know...you shall be blessed if you do them (v17)

## c. We Remember, Participate and Anticipant

□ As Apostle Paul said;

❖ 23 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you,

❖ That the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for<sup>6</sup> you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

□ Prayer for Bread

❖ 25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

□ Prayer Cup

□ As stewards serve you hold on the elements

❖ 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink together

# In closing:

- Whilst our feeble human forms and praxis show case its efforts to merit favour of God, but its all futile, for it is only in Jesus Christ,
  - ❖ That He is Our Bread of Life and true Grapevine,
  - ❖ Through whom God has
    - covered us from his wrath,
    - delivered us from sin and Satan, and
    - bound us to himself in a covenant that can never be broken.
  - ❖ Therefore, it is only in Christ Jesus that we find the favour of God for our renewal and revival in life.



# Ref:

- Scott Habard -*Why Bread and Wine? Enjoying the Meal Above All Meals* (2022). *Desiring God*
  - Bible NIV, ESV
- 