

# Psalm 21:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head.

## Analysis

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The word 'preventest' (KJV) means 'to go before' or 'to anticipate'—God's blessings precede human action, demonstrating prevenient grace. The crown of pure gold symbolizes divine favor and sovereign appointment. From a Reformed perspective, this verse illustrates unconditional election: God's blessings flow from His sovereign choice, not human merit. God initiates, bestows, and establishes—the king receives, not achieves.

## Historical Context

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The coronation imagery recalls the anointing of Davidic kings. The 'crown of pure gold' signifies both royalty and divine approval. In Solomon's case (1 Kings 1-2), God's choice preceded Solomon's reign, demonstrating sovereign election.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing that God's blessings precede your efforts affect your view of salvation?

2. In what ways have you experienced God's 'preventive' grace in your life?

## Interlinear Text

תְּשַׁׁיְתָ ט וּ בְּרַכְתָּו תְּקַדְמָנוּ  
H3588 For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness thou settest  
H6923 H1293 H2896 H7896

פָּזָן עַטְּרַת לְרָאשׁ וּ  
on his head a crown of pure gold  
H7218 H5850 H6337

## Additional Cross-References

**2 Samuel 12:30** (Parallel theme): And he took their king's crown from off his head, the weight whereof was a talent of gold with the precious stones: and it was set on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abundance.

**Ephesians 1:3 (Sin):** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

**Psalms 59:10** (Parallel theme): The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see my desire upon mine enemies.

**Psalms 31:19** (Good): Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

**1 Chronicles 20:2** (Parallel theme): And David took the crown of their king from off his head, and found it to weigh a talent of gold, and there were precious stones in it; and it was set upon David's head: and he brought also exceeding much spoil out of the city.

**Hebrews 2:9** (Parallel theme): But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

**Romans 11:35** (Parallel theme): Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?

**Revelation 19:12** (Parallel theme): His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

**Psalms 18:18** (Parallel theme): They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the LORD was my stay.

**Job 41:11** (Parallel theme): Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine.

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