

**How should you behave in the presence of the king?**  
PM Service Proverbs 25:6-10 Oct. 22, 2017

**Introduction**

“courtier” a person who attends a royal court as a companion or adviser to the king or queen.

**Two Observations Regarding Royal Policy**

1. Policy should be clear and understandable to all the subjects.
2. Royal policy needs to be righteous, i.e., in harmony with the principles of divine revelation.

**How should you behave in the presence of the king?**

Solomon now offers three admonitions designed to indicate to would-be courtiers how they should behave in the presence of the king.

**1. Don’t promote yourself to the king.**

**a. The warnings**

1. *Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king,*  
“exalt”  
“presence”
2. *And do not stand in the place of the great;*  
“stand”

**b. The reasoning**

John MacArthur “...the elevating of the humble is honorable, but the humbling of the proud is disgraceful.

The point: Trying to promote oneself could bring on public humiliation; but it would be an honor to have everyone in court hear the promotion by the king.

Luke 14:7-11

**2. Avoid being contentious.**

**a. Do not go hastily to court.**

“do not go out hastily to strive”

**b. What will you do in the end, when your neighbor has put you to shame?**

**3. Don’t betray confidences.**

**a. The Actions**

“When you argue, do not reveal secrets.”

**b. The Consequences of Betraying Confidences**

Two cautions

1. *Lest he who hears it expose your shame...*

Who is the *he*?

What does he do?

2. *And your reputation be ruined.*

**What have we learned, and what should we do?**

**1. Don’t promote yourself to the king.**

**2. Avoid being contentious.**

**3. Don’t betray confidences.**