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November 4, 1981

Dear James:

Just a note to thank you for your wonderful letter.

God has surely smiled on America and I, for one, am glad that He has given us a man to whom "soul" means more than just America's gift to the music world.

You have already made an immeasurable contribution to the good of our beloved country and your offer of further service is deeply appreciated.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Rm A

X
Mr. James Brown
The James Brown Enterprises
Executive Park, Suite 116
1054 Stevens Creek Road
Augusta, Georgia 30907

RR:EA:EJL:jm--

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James Brown sent the words to his new song "God Has Smiled on Me"

DRAFT/Date 10/22/81

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

RR/ EA / ELK /
(Drafter) (Rev. I) (Rev. II)

Enclosures:

AVH/ /
(Drafter) (Rev. I)

Other:

Dear James:

Just a note to thank you for your wonderful letter.

God has surely smiled on America and I, for one, am glad that ~~He~~ has given us a man to whom "soul" means much more than just America's gift to the music world.

You have already made an immeasurable contribution to the good of our beloved country and your offer of further service is deeply appreciated.

Best regards, 

Sincerely,

 signs: Ren

lv
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THE JAMES BROWN ENTERPRISES



1054 STEVENS CREEK ROAD • EXECUTIVE PARK, SUITE 116

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30907

Telephone (404) 733-1052

September 16, 1981

President Ronald Reagan
White House
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

In my complete compliance with the President's theme I have produced my first gospel record. I want to tell my fellow country men with music what the President has said in action. Despite whatever problems we face in our country, God has smiled on us and I know he has smiled on me as an American and as a man.

While the record is in production I'm sending you a copy of the lyrics to inform you of our message.

(If I can be of assistance for the good of the country at any time don't hesitate to call

May God bless you,

James Brown

JB/blj

cc:

Vice-President Bush
Senator Strom Thurmond
Seantor Mack Mattingly

GOD HAS SMILED ON ME

Produced by James Brown

Words by Rev. Al Sharpton

#1 This is Rev. Al Sharpton of Brooklyn, New York. I've been traveling around the country talking to the radio announcers, the church people and the street people, telling them that God has smiled on me. God has smiled on you if you've got breath in your body, if he woke you up this morning and started you on your way. I want to tell you some stories of people that God smiled on. We all know the story of Dr. Martin Luther King, how he started out way back in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955 trying to get dignity and just trying to get respect and he went all the way to the mountain top but he didn't forget about the brothers in the valley, he didn't forget those trapped in the alley. And I hear Br. Martin King saying

CHORUS:

God has smiled on me, he has set me free, God has smiled on me, been so good to me.

#2 Then I see as Dr. King went on another man stepped into the forefront by the name of John F. Kennedy, who rose up and said lets not stand back, lets not wait for a handout, lets wait for a way out. He said "ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country". He said don't let's grovel and don't let's moan because God done smiled on us.

CHORUS:

God has smiled on me, he has set me free, God has smiled on me, been so good to me.

#3 Then I went on backstage at the Apollo Theatre and I saw a man come out they call him the "King of Soul", James Brown. James Brown said "Reverend don't you worry, I started out as a shoeshine boy, I started out as a convict, I started out uneducated but I learned to sing my song and I sung it all over the world. I told them it was a man's world, I told them about the big payback, I told them papa got a brand new bag and all over the world they can hear my voice but Reverend don't you frown, don't you bow your head" Tell em what you told me Brother Brown.

CHORUS:

God has smiled on me, he has set me free, God has smiled on me, been so good to me.

#4 Then I went home and I told my Mother what Brown told me. She said "son even though we don't have much we don't need relief all we need is belief". She said he didn't tell you no lie cause the Lord will take care of you. God sits high but he looks down low and everytime you get discouraged, everytime you get burdened down all you have to do is think of the things that God made a way for you and look towards the heavens, lift your eyes to the hills and say God, God, God come smile on me.

CHORUS:

God has smiled on me, he has set me free, God has smiled on me, been so good to me.

#5 And I know all over the country we need jobs, we need a way to make it. We need help, we need jobs, we need a way to make some money to feed our families and raise our bread. We need a way to survive so we don't need crime as a survival kit. We just need a little bit(money). But don't give the hope up, don't lose the faith because God will smile on you. God will give you the strength, God will make a way for you. Adam Clayton Powell said Keep the faith, keep the faith baby. I hear Robert Kennedy saying it's not the dreamer but it's the dream that will live on forever. Just know that God, God will smile on you, Dr. King had a dream, Dr. King said "I went to the mountaintop but I didn't stop there. I looked over and I say the promised land". I hear Brother Malcolm saying "don't sit on the stoop, stand up and be a man, respect yourself be somebody." Then I hear the brothers in the Hispanic community say "I'm going to stand up and be a man, I'm gonna do the best I can". I hear Aretha say, "I don't care what time you get home just give me some respect when you get there".