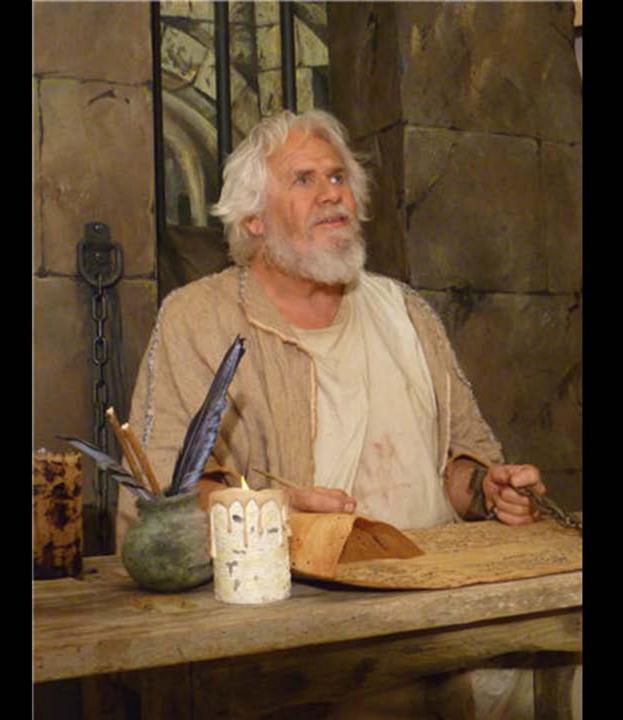
Ephesians 3 { Know God's Grace, Know God's Love

¹ When I think of all this, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the benefit of you Gentiles ² assuming, by the way, that you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending his grace to you Gentiles. 3 As I briefly wrote earlier, God himself revealed his mysterious plan to me. ⁴ As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. ⁵ God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets.

Ephesians 3:1-7 (NLT)

⁶ And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. 7 By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.

Ephesians 3:1-7 (NLT)





1"For the Kingdom of Heaven is like the landowner who went out early one morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay the normal daily wage[a] and sent them out to work.

³ "At nine o' clock in the morning he was passing through the marketplace and saw some people standing around doing nothing. ⁴ So he hired them, telling them he would pay them whatever was right at the end of the day. ⁵ So they went to work in the vineyard. At noon and again at three o' clock he did the same thing.

- ⁶ "At five o' clock that afternoon he was in town again and saw some more people standing around. He asked them, 'Why haven' t you been working today?'
- ⁷ "They replied, 'Because no one hired us.'
- "The landowner told them, 'Then go out and join the others in my vineyard.'
- ⁸ "That evening he told the foreman to call the workers in and pay them, beginning with the last workers first.

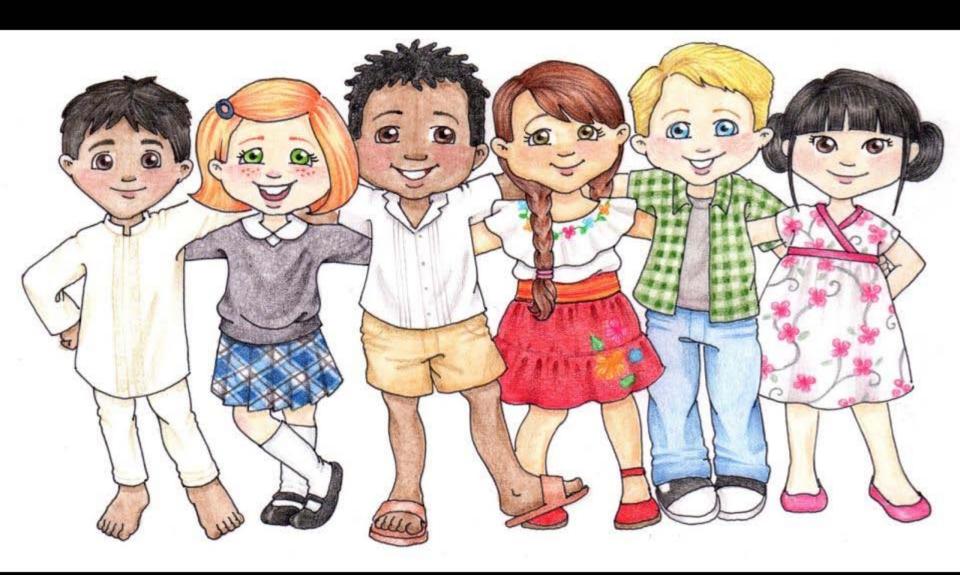
⁹ When those hired at five o' clock were paid, each received a full day's wage.

¹⁰ When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would receive more. But they, too, were paid a day's wage. ¹¹ When they received their pay, they protested to the owner, ¹² 'Those people worked only one hour, and yet you' ve paid them just as much as you paid us who worked all day in the scorching heat.'

¹³ "He answered one of them, 'Friend, I haven' t been unfair! Didn' t you agree to work all day for the usual wage? ¹⁴ Take your money and go. I wanted to pay this last worker the same as you. ¹⁵ Is it against the law for me to do what I want with my money? Should you be jealous because I am kind to others?'

¹⁶ "So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last."





GRACE

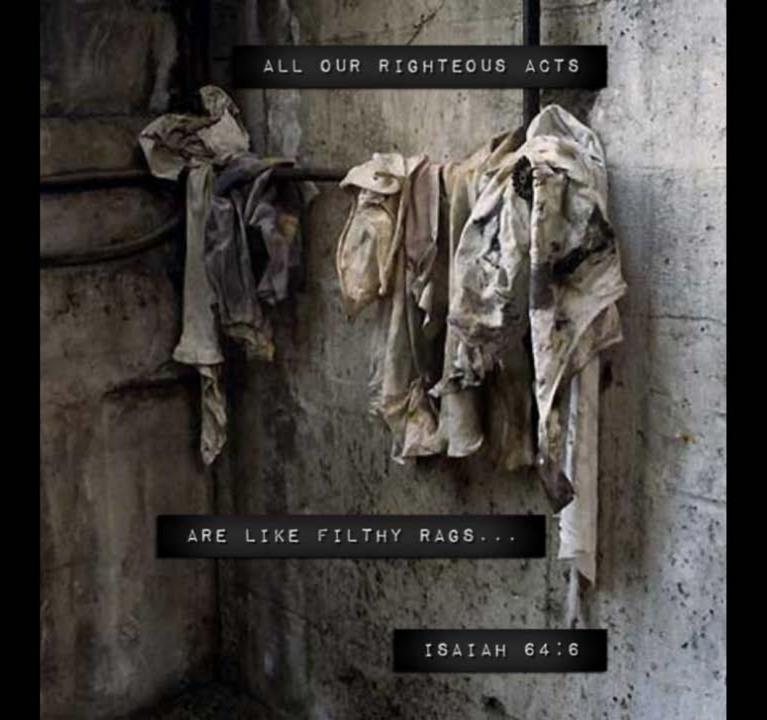
 Disposition to or an act or instance of kindness, courtesy, or clemency

2. Classic "unmerited favor"

GOD'S UNMERITED FAVOR

Isaiah 64:6 (NLT)

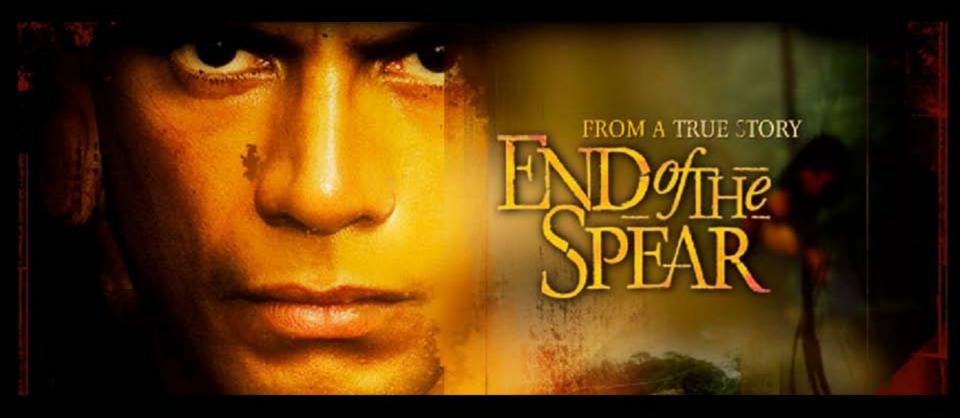
⁶ We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags.



We Can't Know God's love if we don't know Gods Grace!

8 Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ.

Eph 3:8





¹⁰ God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Eph 3:10





¹² Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.

Eph 3:12



¹⁶ I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. 17 Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. 18 And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. ¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Eph 3:16-19