

The Favour of God

PART ONE

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ARISE, SHINE
YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

The favour of God on His people...



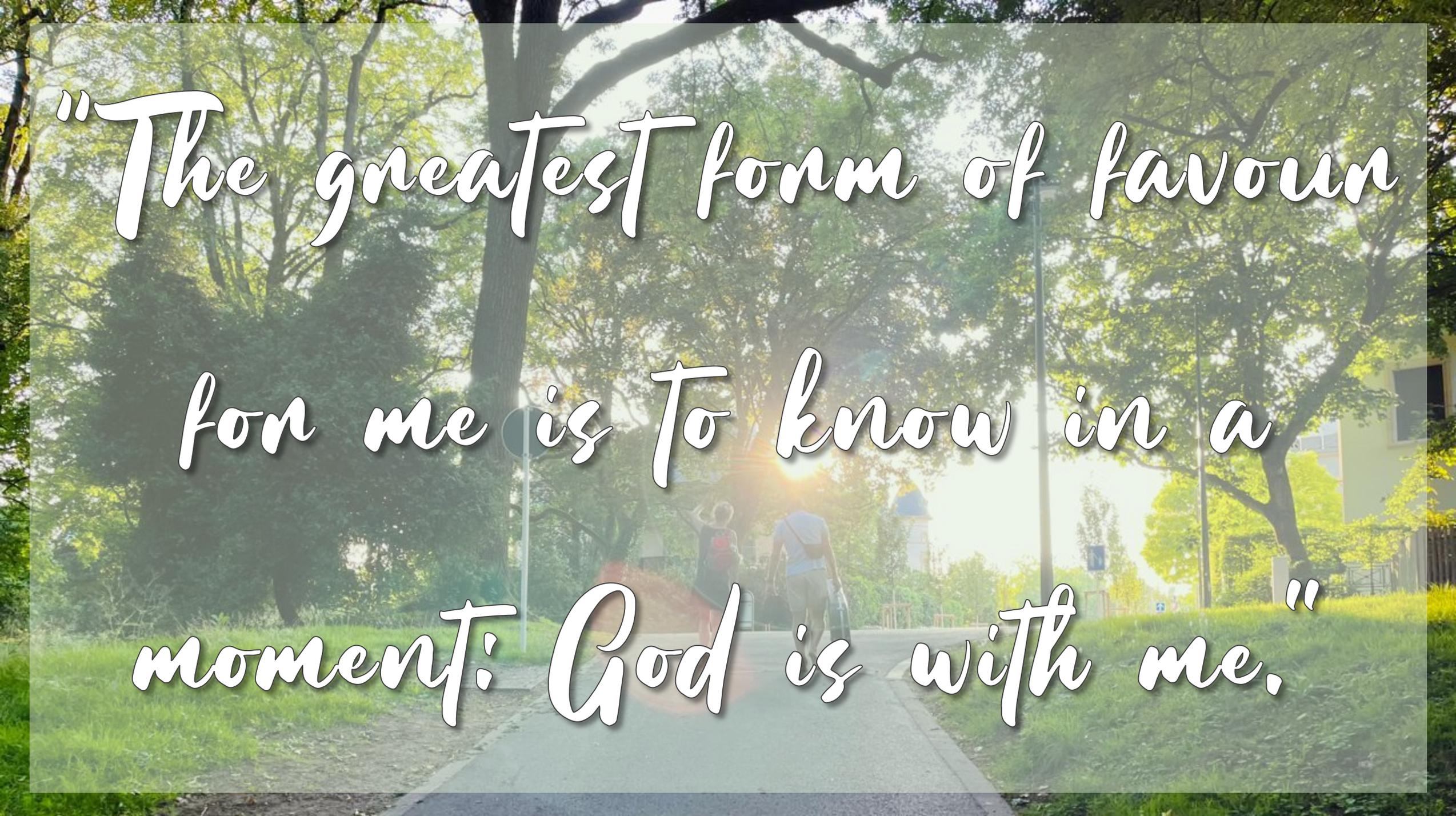
1. Intro:

Some have favour, some seemingly not...

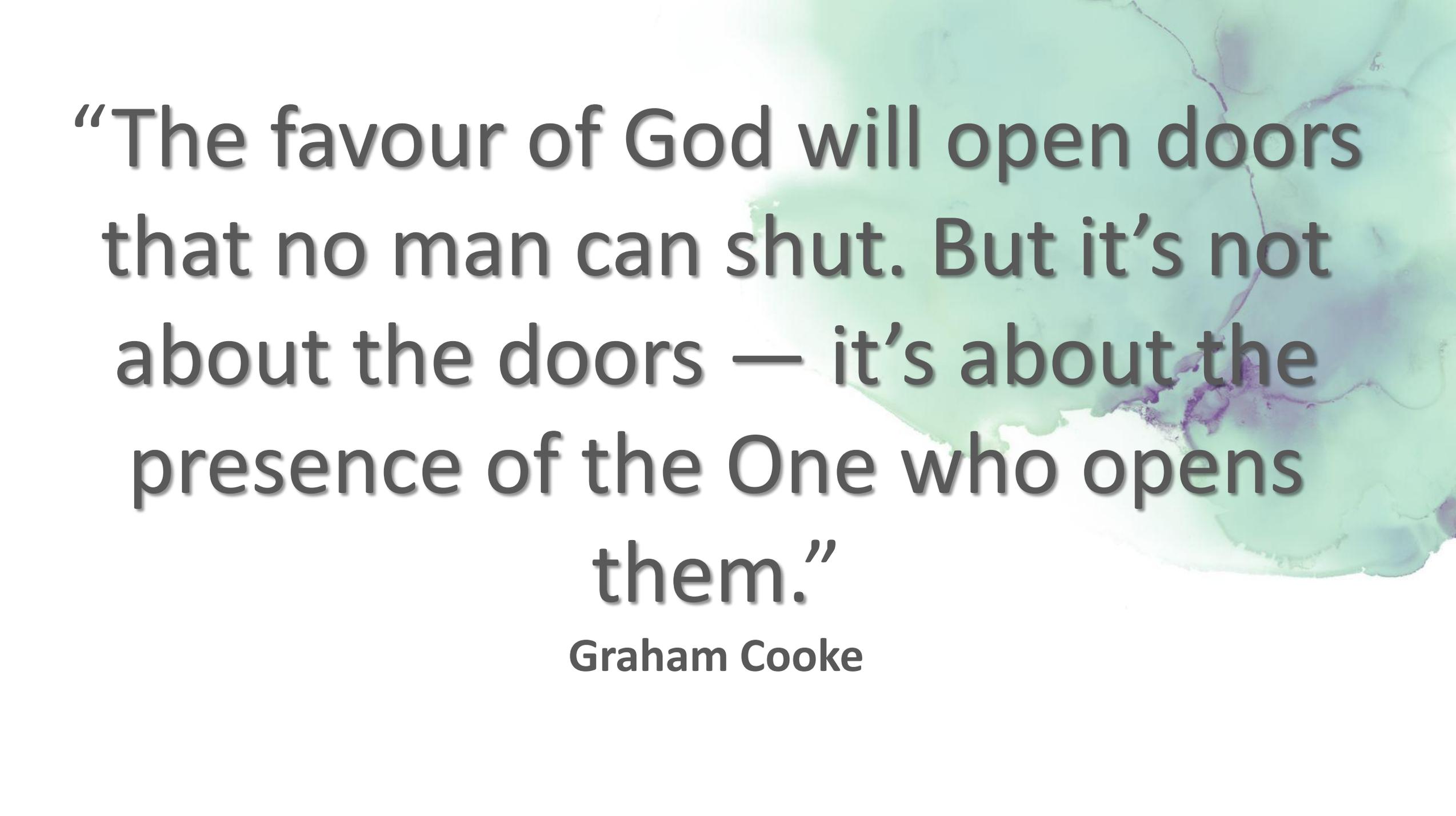
Romans 2:11 For God shows no partiality.

Ephesians 6:9 ...and there is no favoritism with him.

Why?

A scenic view of a tree-lined path in a park or university campus. The path is paved and leads towards a building with a blue dome in the distance. There are several people walking on the path, and the sun is shining through the trees, creating a warm, golden light. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, cursive font with a drop shadow.

"The greatest form of favour
for me is to know in a
moment: God is with me."



“The favour of God will open doors
that no man can shut. But it’s not
about the doors — it’s about the
presence of the One who opens
them.”

Graham Cooke

2. Definitions: Favour

What is favour to you?

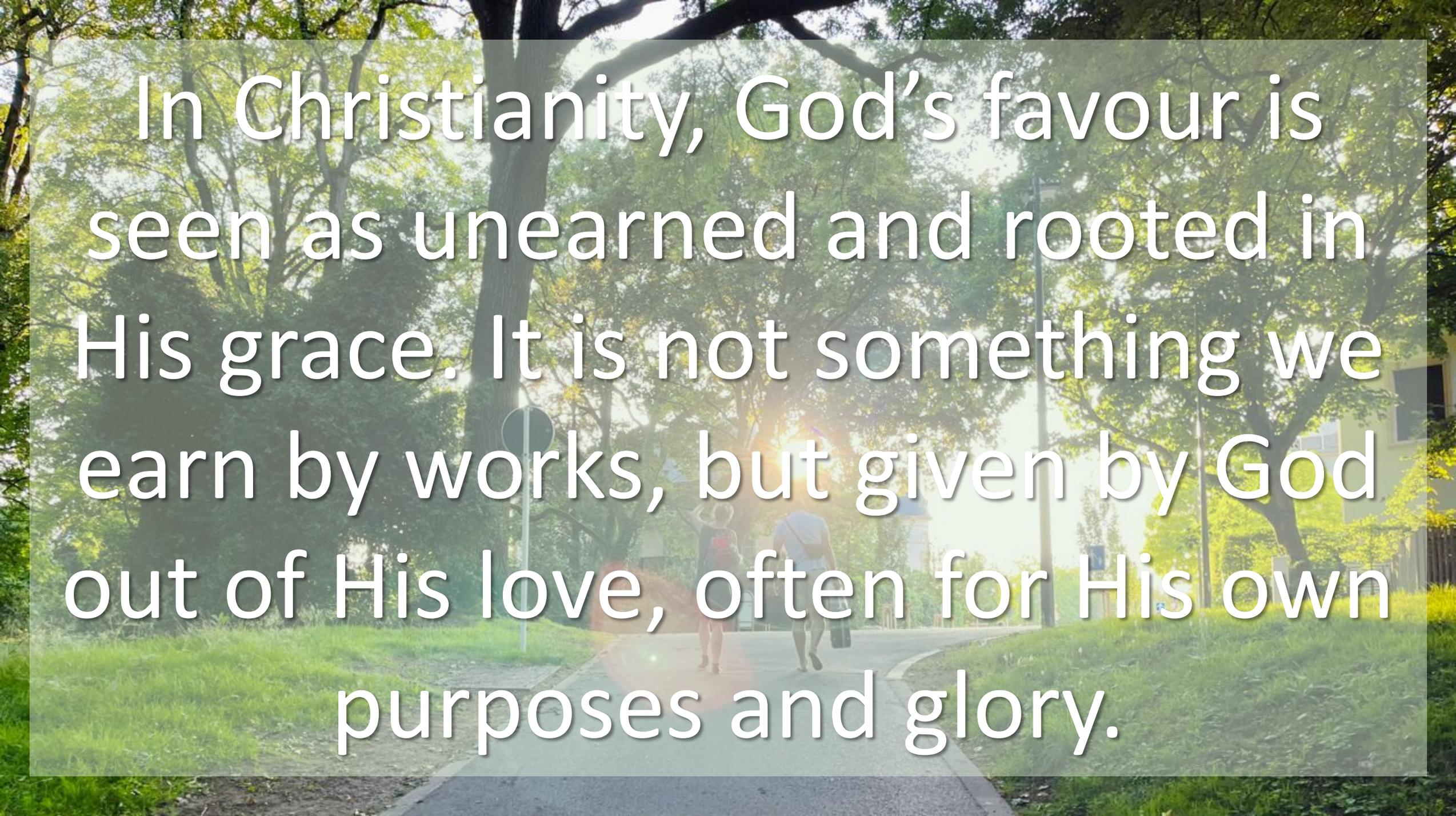
2.1 The Bible says: 'Favour'

Hebrew – Old Testament

- Hebrew word: חֵן (ḥēn)
- Meaning: **Grace, favour, charm, acceptance**
- Root idea: To bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior — especially from a superior to someone undeserving.
- Example usage: **Genesis 6:8** “But Noah found favor (ḥēn) in the eyes of the LORD.”

Greek – New Testament

- Greek word: χάρις (charis)
- Meaning: **Grace, kindness, favour, benefit, unmerited favour, pleasure, thank-**
- Root idea: That which bestows or brings delight, favour freely extended regardless of merit. *Especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude [Strong]* Root word: chairō - to be of full cheer or happy
- Example usage: **Luke 2:52** “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor (charis) with God and man.”

A photograph of a paved path winding through a lush, green park or campus. The sun is shining brightly from behind the trees, creating a lens flare effect. In the distance, two people are walking away from the camera. The path is bordered by grass and large, mature trees with dense foliage. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is overlaid on the image, containing white text with a subtle drop shadow.

In Christianity, God's favour is seen as unearned and rooted in His grace. It is not something we earn by works, but given by God out of His love, often for His own purposes and glory.

2.2 What does God's favour look like?

1. Salvation
2. Calling and purpose
3. Answered Prayer
4. Provision and breakthrough
5. Protection
6. Favour with people
7. The Kingdom come

Christ-centered

3. Jesus and favour:

Relational

'The world says hustle [to survive, live and thrive], but God says to us follow and as you follow, you will have My unmerited favour and grace.'

The favour bestowed on us is ONLY BY FAITH IN CHRIST -

- It starts with salvation by grace through faith - Eph 2:8
- **Obedience and humility** positions us to experience more
- God's favour is for **His purpose** and not just personal comfort
- Favour **doesn't mean a problem-free life**, but divine presence in all seasons.



*No real favour without a
pursuit of Jesus Christ*

3.1 Favour is unlocked through SALVATION:

The greatest grace and favour of God to me and you is SALVATION.

Undeserved and unmerited grace by faith...

1. Sin separated humanity from God

- **Romans 3:23** “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
- **Isaiah 59:2** “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you.”

Sin broke relationship with God. Because God is holy and just, sin must be judged

2. Jesus took our place (substitutionary atonement)

Jesus took the punishment we deserved by dying on the cross.

- **Isaiah 53:5–6** “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities... the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
 - **2 Corinthians 5:21** “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
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3. He satisfied God’s justice and expressed His love

- **Romans 3:25–26** “God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement... to demonstrate his righteousness... and to justify those who have faith in Jesus.”

4. Through the cross, we are reconciled with God

Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we can be brought back into right relationship and favour with God.

- **Romans 5:10–11** “For if while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son... we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”

Through the Cross we have favour again

5. Justification and adoption as children of God

Believers are now justified – declared righteous – and adopted into God’s family through faith in Jesus.

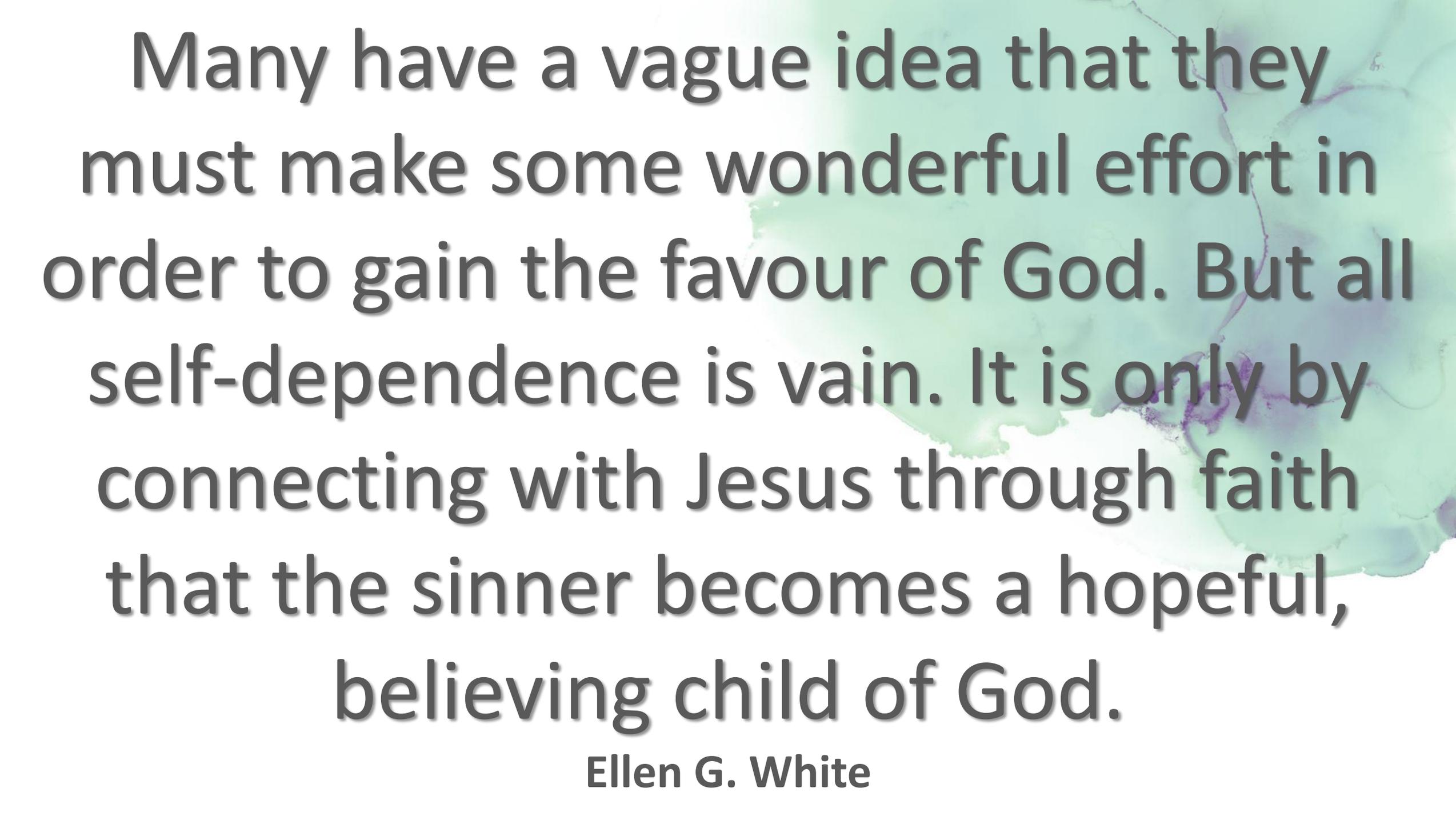
- **Romans 5:1** “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
 - **Galatians 4:4–5** – “...God sent his Son... to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.”
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3.2 True Favour flows from Jesus

True favour flows from Jesus -

Sonship identity and

Righteousness



Many have a vague idea that they must make some wonderful effort in order to gain the favour of God. But all self-dependence is vain. It is only by connecting with Jesus through faith that the sinner becomes a hopeful, believing child of God.

Ellen G. White

Luke 2:52 And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favour with **God and men.**

Relationship

Matthew 20:19 A scribe approached Him and said, “Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go!” 20 Jesus told him, “Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head.”

Jesus had great favour, yet...

Debunk a lie

1 Timothy 6:3 If anyone teaches other doctrine and does not agree with the sound teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the teaching that **promotes godliness**, 4 he is conceited, understanding nothing, but has a sick interest in disputes and arguments over words. From these come envy, quarreling, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain. 6 But godliness with contentment is a great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. 9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation, a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

The Favour of Jesus

The Favour of Jesus flowed...

Mark 10:45 “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

1 John 3:8 “The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.”

John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

Favour Flows



A wide-angle photograph of a vast field of golden-brown grain, likely wheat or barley, under a clear sky. The field stretches to the horizon, with a line of green trees and a small building visible in the distance. A semi-transparent rectangular box is centered over the field, containing the text "Favour Focus" in a white, cursive font with a black outline.

Favour Focus



Let's Pray



ARISE, SHINE
YOUR LIGHT HAS COME