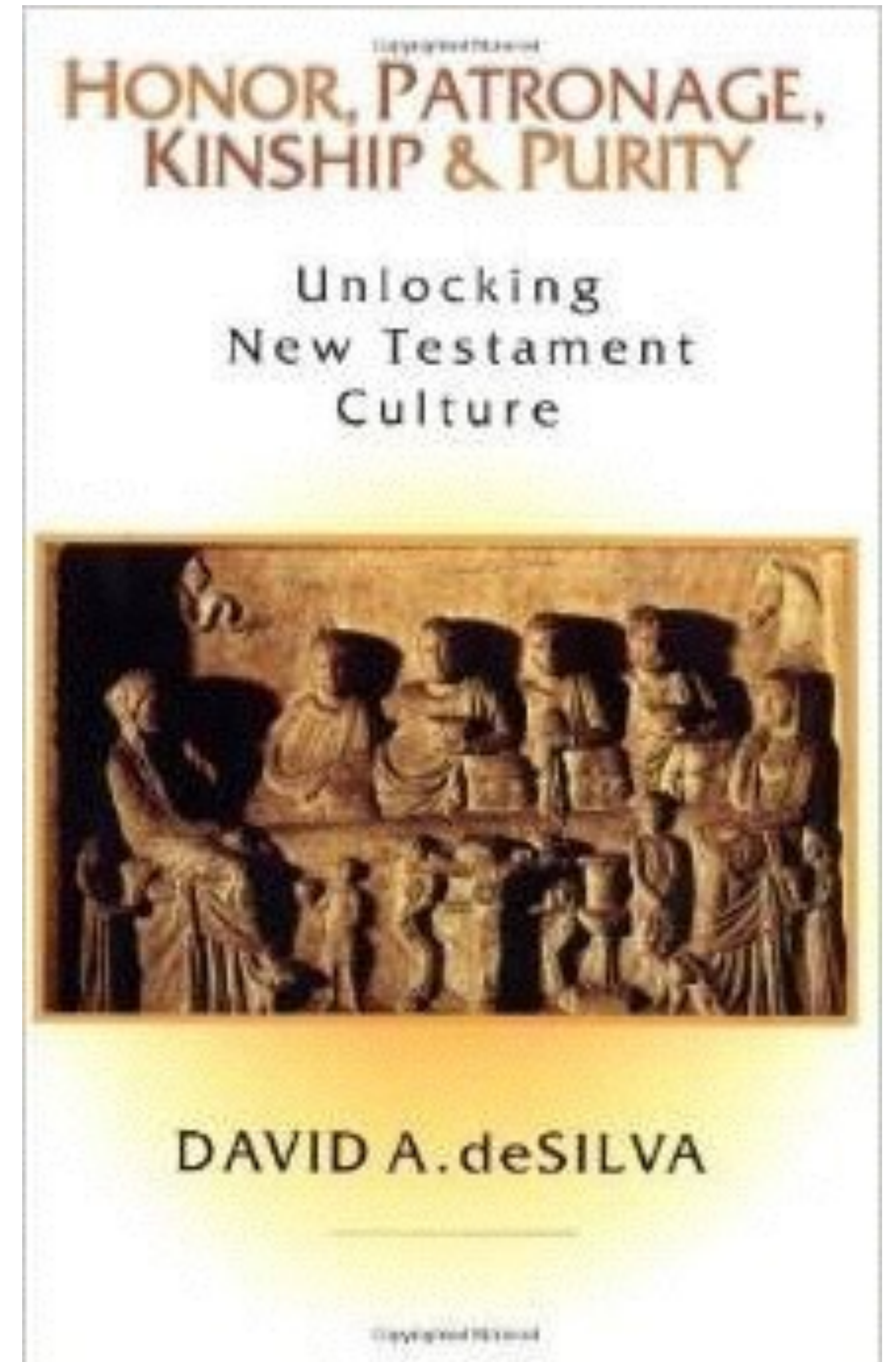


YESHUA OUR PATRON

THE GOSPEL OF THE SUFFERING SERVANT

Recommended Resource



It's all about relationship...

YES!

but do you know the protocol of
relationships in Yeshua's day?

How the relationship begins

- **Client has a need that the patron is able to fulfill**
 - Money, goods, etc
 - Resident alien required patron to sponsor them to gain access to the city.
- **Client petitions the patron**
 - Israel cries out
 - “All who call on the name of YHWH will be saved”

How the relationship begins

- **Granting** of petition **referred to as “grace”** (charis)
 - This “**grace**” is said to be **free, without obligation.**
 - **Sacrifices** to **entreat** God’s grace - Mal 1:9
 - Sirach 20:13-16
- This starts a “**circle of grace**” relationship
 - Patron calls client “friend” (Jn 15:14), client calls patron “sir, master, savior”

The Relationship

Aristotle (Rhetoric 2.7.1):

"Grace [charis] may be defined as helpfulness toward someone in need, not in return for anything, nor for the advantage of the helper himself, but for that of the person helped"

The Relationship

Sophocles:

***“Grace [charis] is always giving
birth to favor [charin]”***

Client's Response

- A **virtuous** person would **seek to reciprocate grace for grace**
- **Failure to reciprocate** was to **destroy** a **gracious act** and stop relationship.

Client's Response

Cicero:

Initiating grace is a matter of **choice**;

Gratitude was **not an option for honorable people**

Client's Response

- **Receiving grace** puts one under a **debt of obligation**
 - Romans 6:14-19
- Patrons would **seek out clients known for gratitude.**
 - Response was known and served as a person's "credit rating"
 - Didache 1.5-6

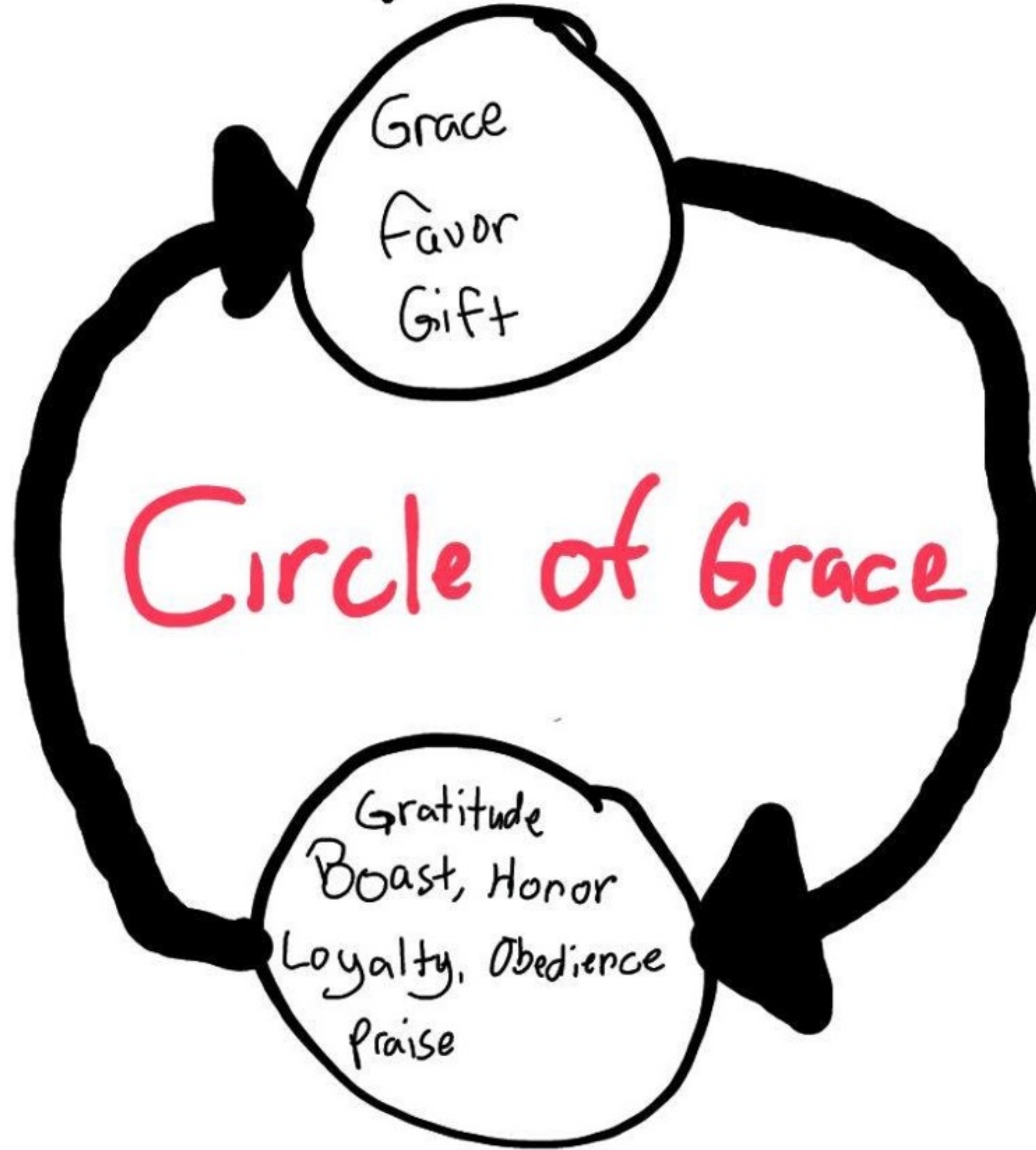
Patron

Grace
Favor
Gift

Circle of Grace

Gratitude
Boast, Honor
Loyalty, Obedience
Praise

Client



Client's Response

- **Threefold requirement for client response:**
 - Public enhancing of the fame/honor of the patron.
 - Remain loyal to the patron.
 - Provide services or gifts whenever the opportunity arose.

Public Honoring of Patron

- “A **gift one is ashamed to acknowledge openly** in the hearing of all, one has **no business accepting** to begin with”
- **Public sacrifices, praising** the name, **worship, acknowledging** as master, praising for blessings. Malachi 1:7-11
- Who are your works honoring? Matt 5:16
- Psalms 116:12-19, Tobit 12:6-7, Luke 12:8

Loyalty to the Patron

- “**If you love me**, keep my commandments”, also 1 Jn 2:3-6.
- **Keeping “faith” is the term used for both patron and client**
- **Multiple patrons** possible as long as they are not rivals or enemies.
 - One patron can **provide access to a more powerful patron** who actually controls the benefit sought
 - Such a patron is called a “**broker**” or “**mediator**”

Loyalty

Seneca (Ep. Mor 81.27)

“if you wish to make a return for a favor, you must be willing to go into exile, or to pour forth your blood, or to undergo poverty, or,even to let your very innocence be stained and exposed to shameful slanders”

Reciprocate with Gifts & Services

- The **patron continues with assistance** as long as the **relationship** continues.
- The **function is not to obtain a return, but** to create a bond of **relationship** with reciprocal benefits.
- Centurion as patron to Jewish elders - Luke 7:1-10
- The Master's Prayer in Matt 6
- **Parable of the ungrateful servant** - Matt 18:23-35

Reciprocate with Gifts & Services

- “Do unto others as I have done for you”
 - Doing justice and righteousness (Matt 25:37-40)
 - Lev 19:2; Deut 10:12-13, 17-19; Jn 13:34; Eph 5:1; 1 Cor 11:1
 - 1 John 3:16-18
 - Shelamim votive offering

God's Grace

- Gift of the **Spirit**: Acts 10:45
- Gospel of **salvation**: Romans 1:16-17
- **Adoption** into the “city”: Ephesians 2:11-20
- **Yeshua** becoming the Suffering Servant: 2 Corinthians 8:9
- Yeshua as the **mediator**: Matt 11:27, John 14:6, 1 Tim 2:5

Our Duty of Reciprocity

- **We are in debt to our Patron**, thus **our “grace”** towards others is **not to place them in debt to us.** Luke 22:24-27, Luke 14:12-14
- **Repentance:** Romans 2:4
- **God provided grace to even the ungrateful;** we too should do the same: Luke 6:35, 1 John 3:16-18
- **Giving honor** to YHWH/Yeshua: Rom 1:20-21, Rev 16:9

Our Duty of Reciprocity

- Doing **justice and righteousness** in the world
 - We are Yeshua's messengers - **people experience God and Yeshua through our actions**
- **Works vs. Grace.** Who is the giver of the gift? Romans 11:34-36
 - **Who receives the honor?** Matt 5:16, 1 Pet 2:11-12
 - What justifies us? Gal 5:4
- **Our giving is in fact His blessing on others:** James 1:17, 2 Cor 9:10-11

Our Duty of Reciprocity

Matthew 25:40

And the king will answer them,

‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are my brothers, you did it to me.’

Yeshua, God's client

- Yeshua always directs praise to the Father
- Yeshua exhibits faithfulness unto death
- Yeshua does the will of His Father

Anselm of Canterbury

According to Anselm of Canterbury, **it was not God's anger that required appeasement, but that His honor needed to be restored.**

In his essay "*Why did God become Human?*", he observed that in order for honor to be restored, **restitution must be initiated by those responsible for shaming the dishonored party**. This means reparations must be made from the human side, a virtual impossibility due to the depth and reach of sin. Only Christ, divine and human, could accomplish the restoration of God's honor and thus repair the breach between God and humanity.

Yeshua as the representative of humanity *responded* to God his patron in perfection of the cycle of grace - **with honor, loyalty, and obedience!**

Isaiah 53 Connection

- No direct connection, but helps us understand how **the “Suffering Servant” can be Yeshua and yet still apply to Israel**
- Yeshua was the **exemplary patron to YHWH**, even unto death
- **Yeshua/God** as patron vs. **Caesar** (see next slide)

Isaiah 53 Connection

- Caesar Augustus (27BC-14AD) assumed the role of benefactor or patron for all of the roman world
 - Thus everyone was ultimately indebted to the emperor
 - Imperial cult
 - The emperor was the recipient of the gods' patronage and served as their special agent

And Now to the Leper...