From Gratitude to Grace



The Journey From Thankfulness to God's Greatest Gift

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

1 Now, brothers and sisters, we make known to you the
grace of God which has been given in the churches of
Macedonia, 2 that in a great ordeal of affliction their
abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in
the wealth of their liberality. 3 For I testify that
according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they
gave voluntarily,

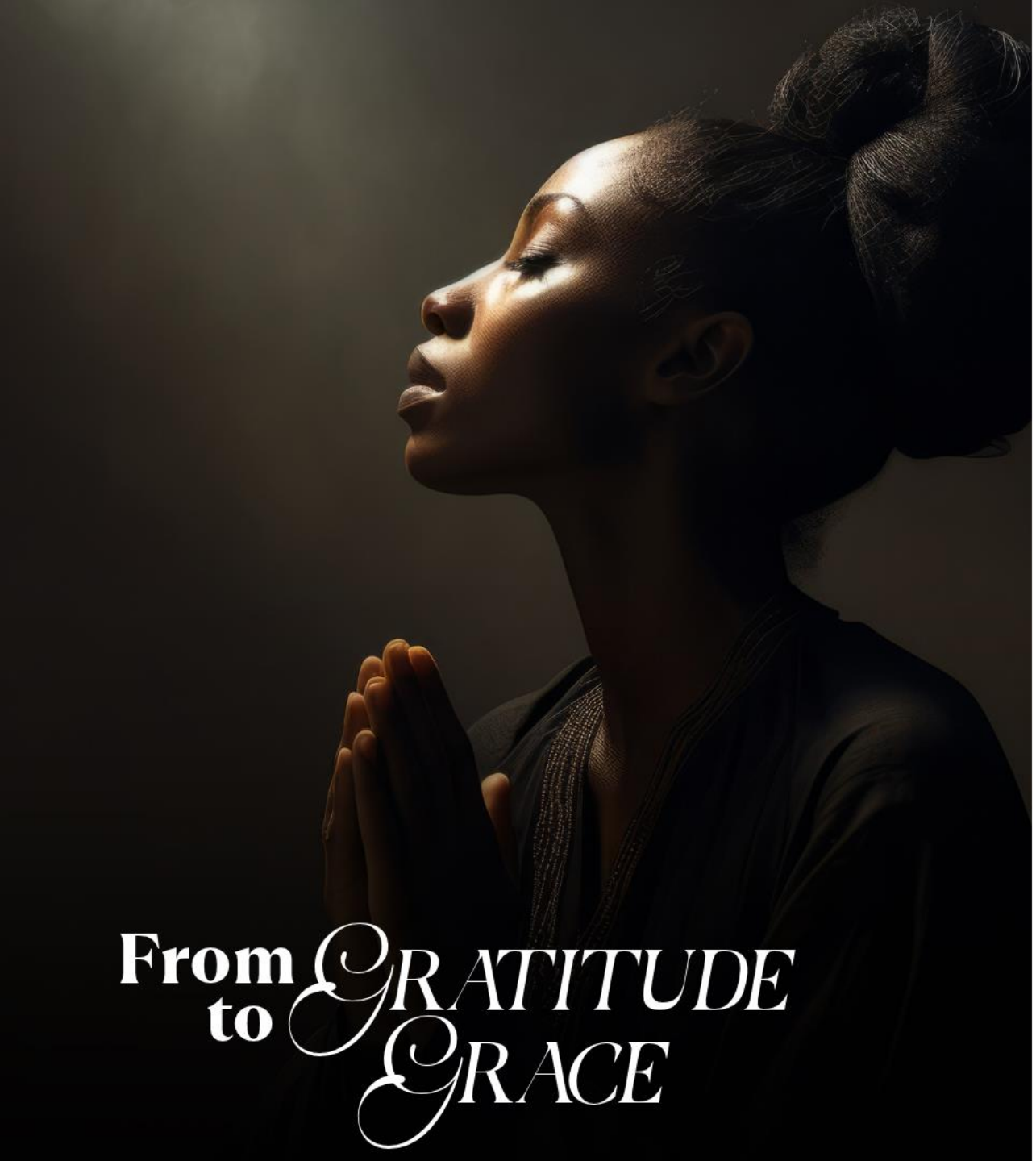
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

4 begging us with much urging for the favor of
participation in the support of the saints, 5 and this, not
as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to
the Lord and to us by the will of God.

The Cycle of Grace

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

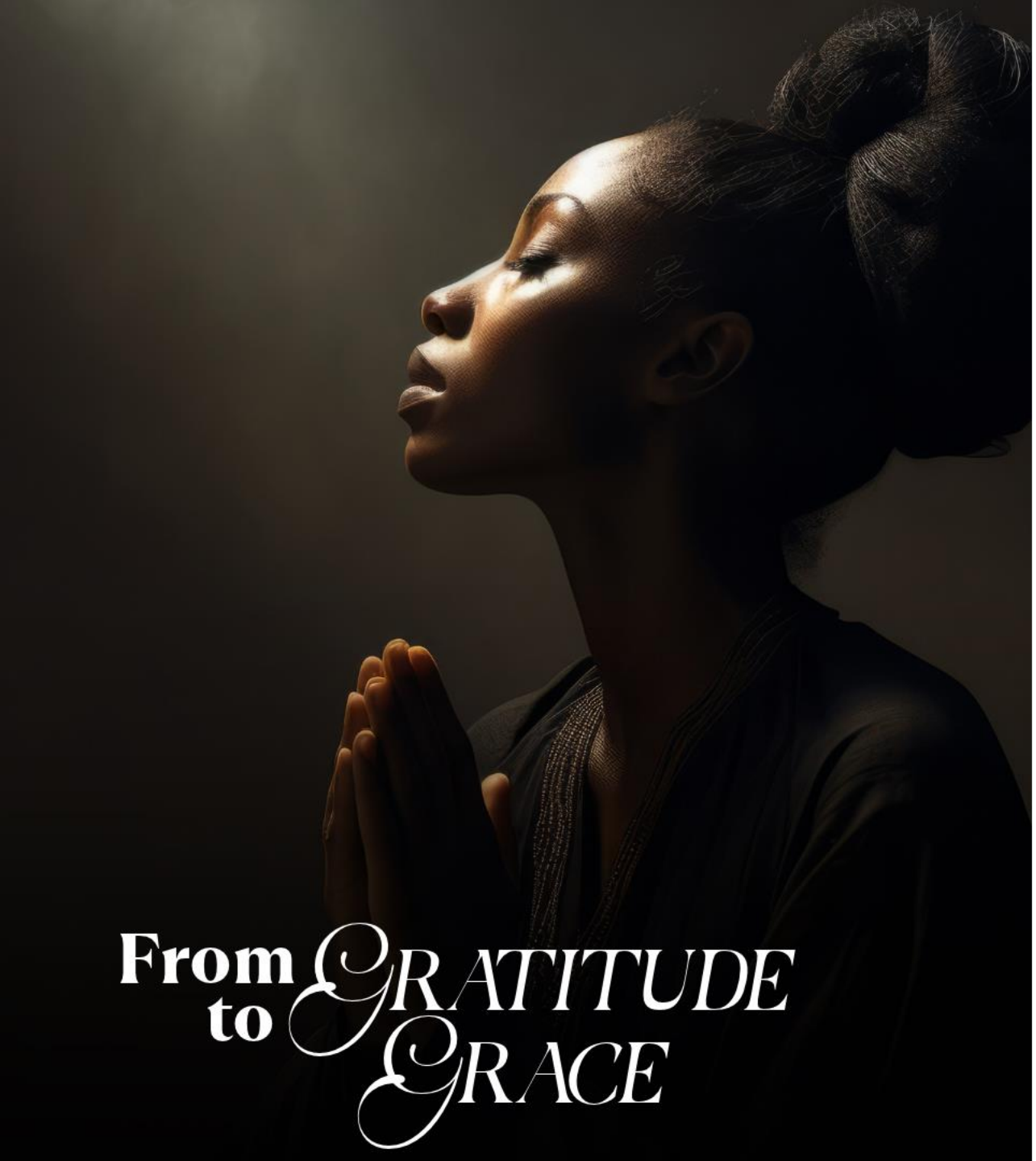
Big Idea: When you are connected and dedicated to God, your life is guaranteed to be a demonstration of His Cycle of Grace.



Senses of Grace

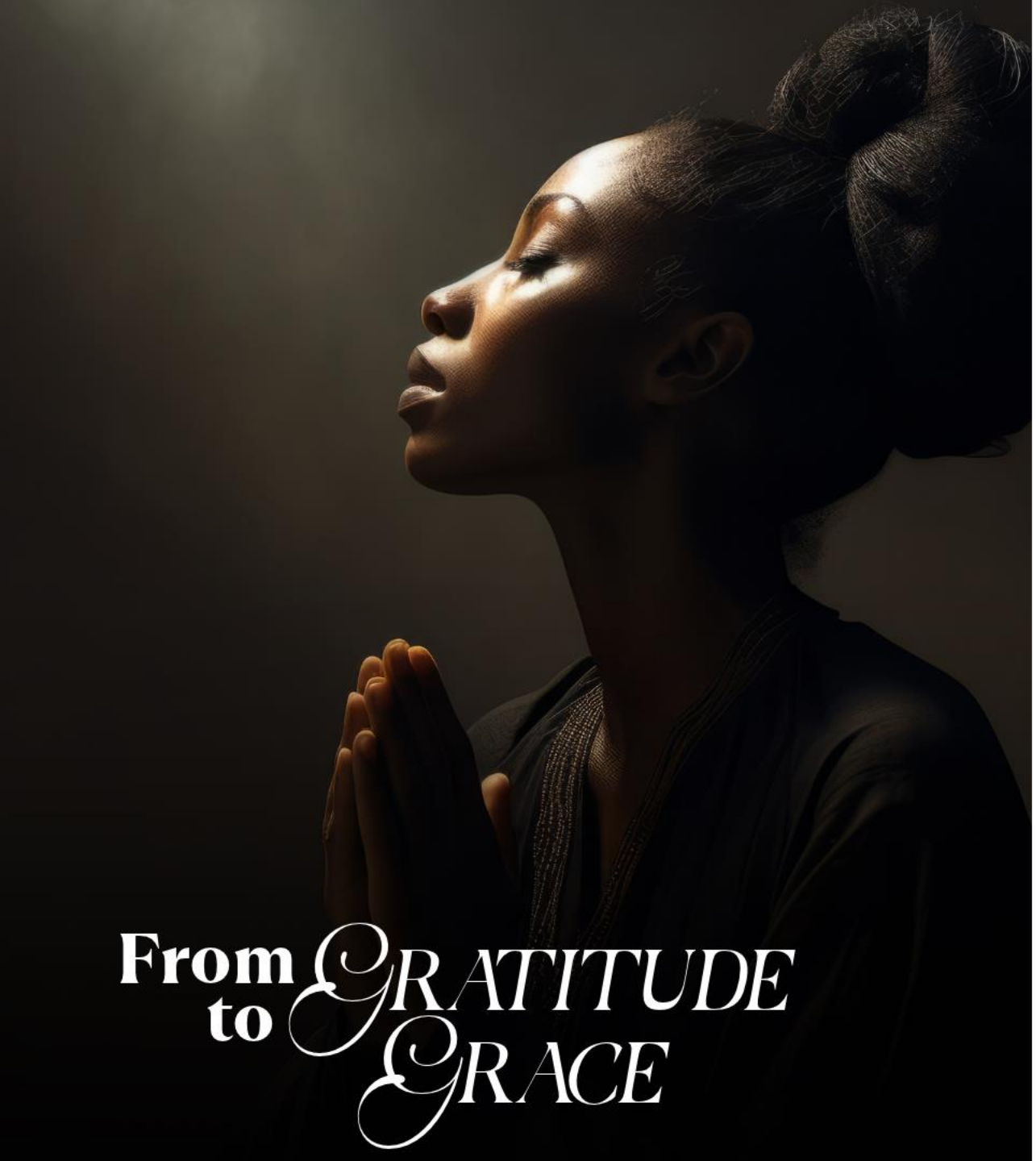
According to Murray J. Harris in the NIGTC

1. “Grace,” referring either to God’s unconditional kindness lavishly displayed (8:9) or to God’s enablement, especially his enablement to participate worthily in the collection (8:1; 9:8, 14).



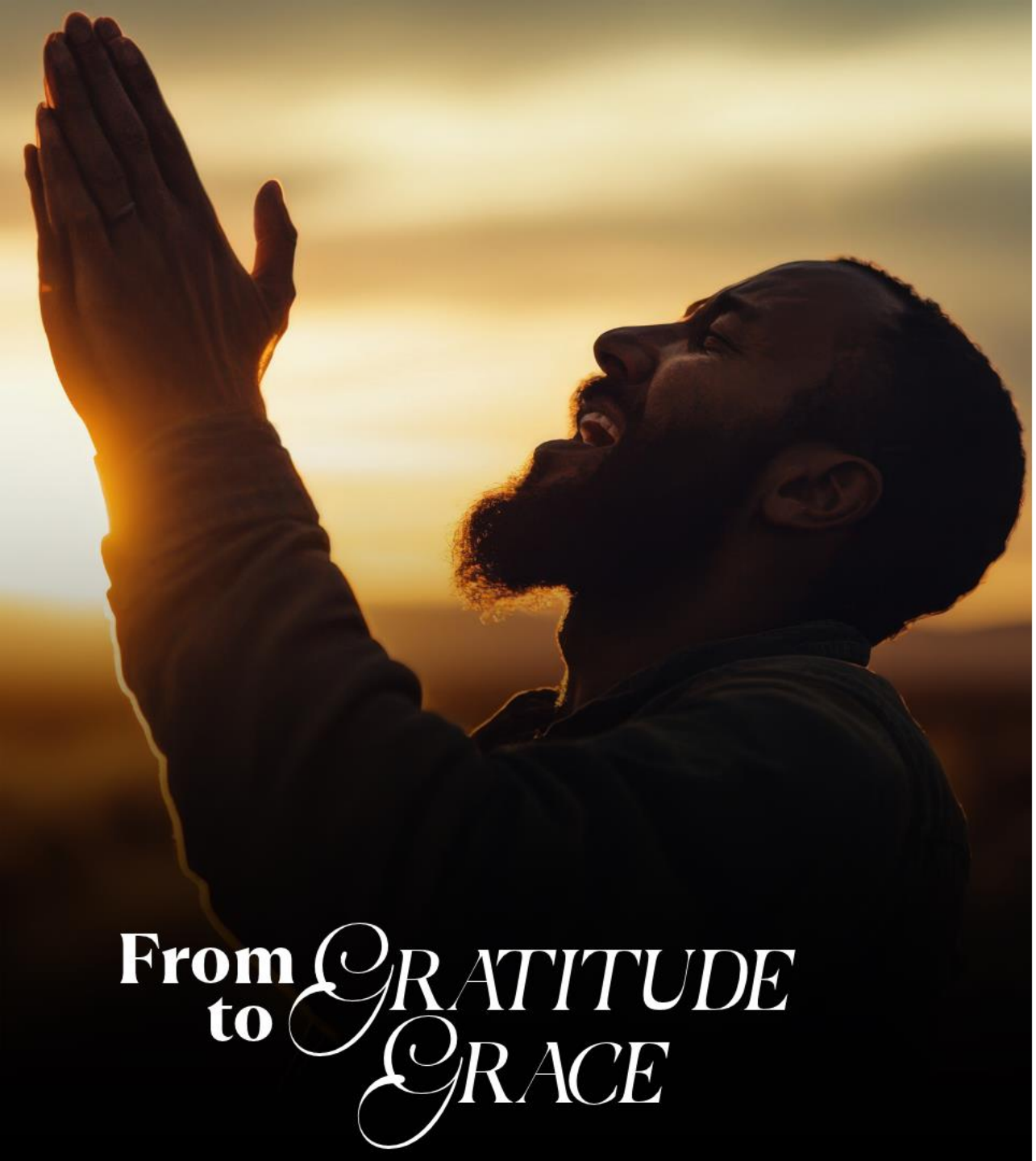
Senses of Grace

2. “Privilege” or “favor,” used of the honor or opportunity of participating in the offering (8:4).



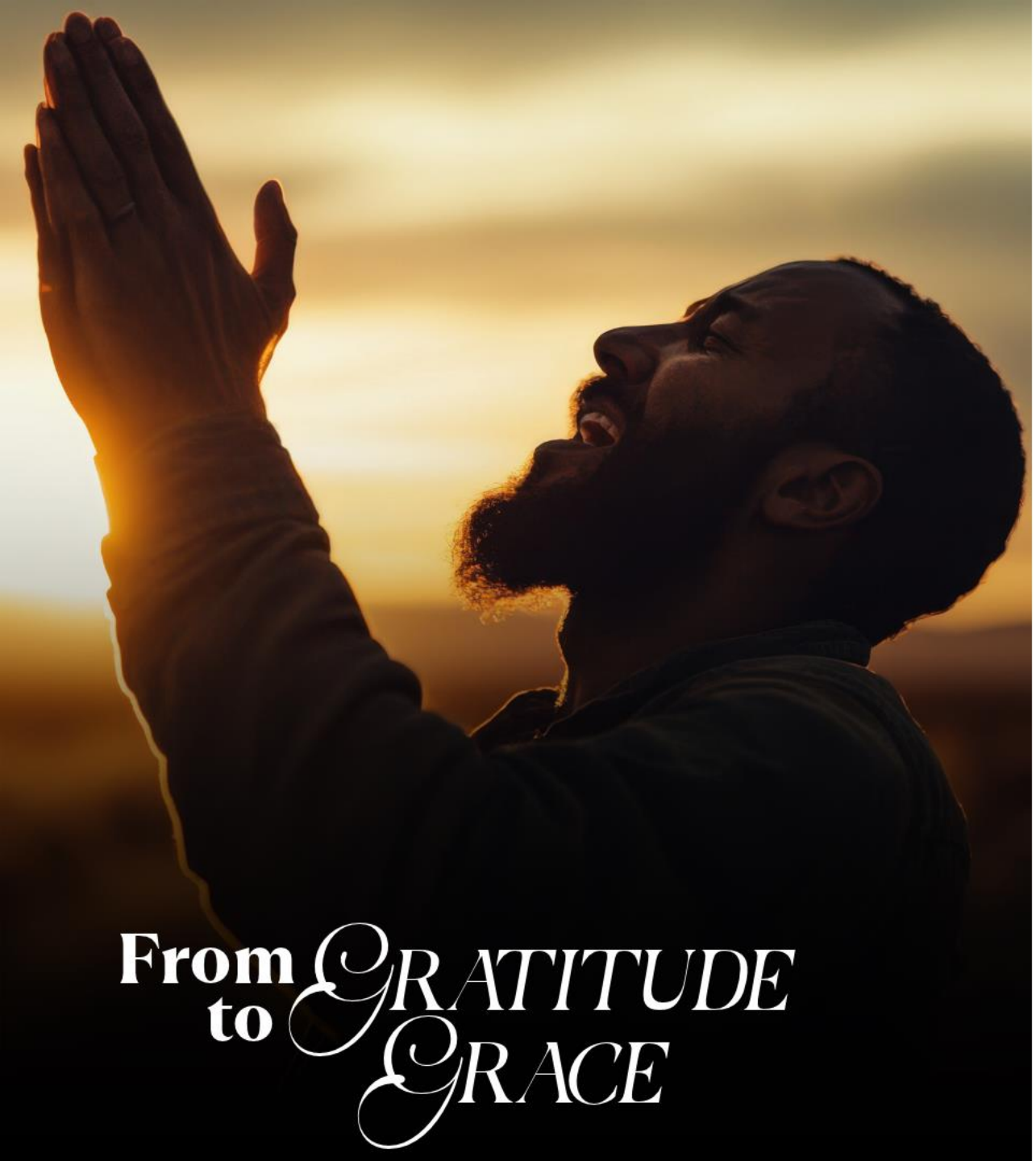
Senses of Grace

3. “Act of grace,” denoting the collection itself as a charitable and generous act (8:6).



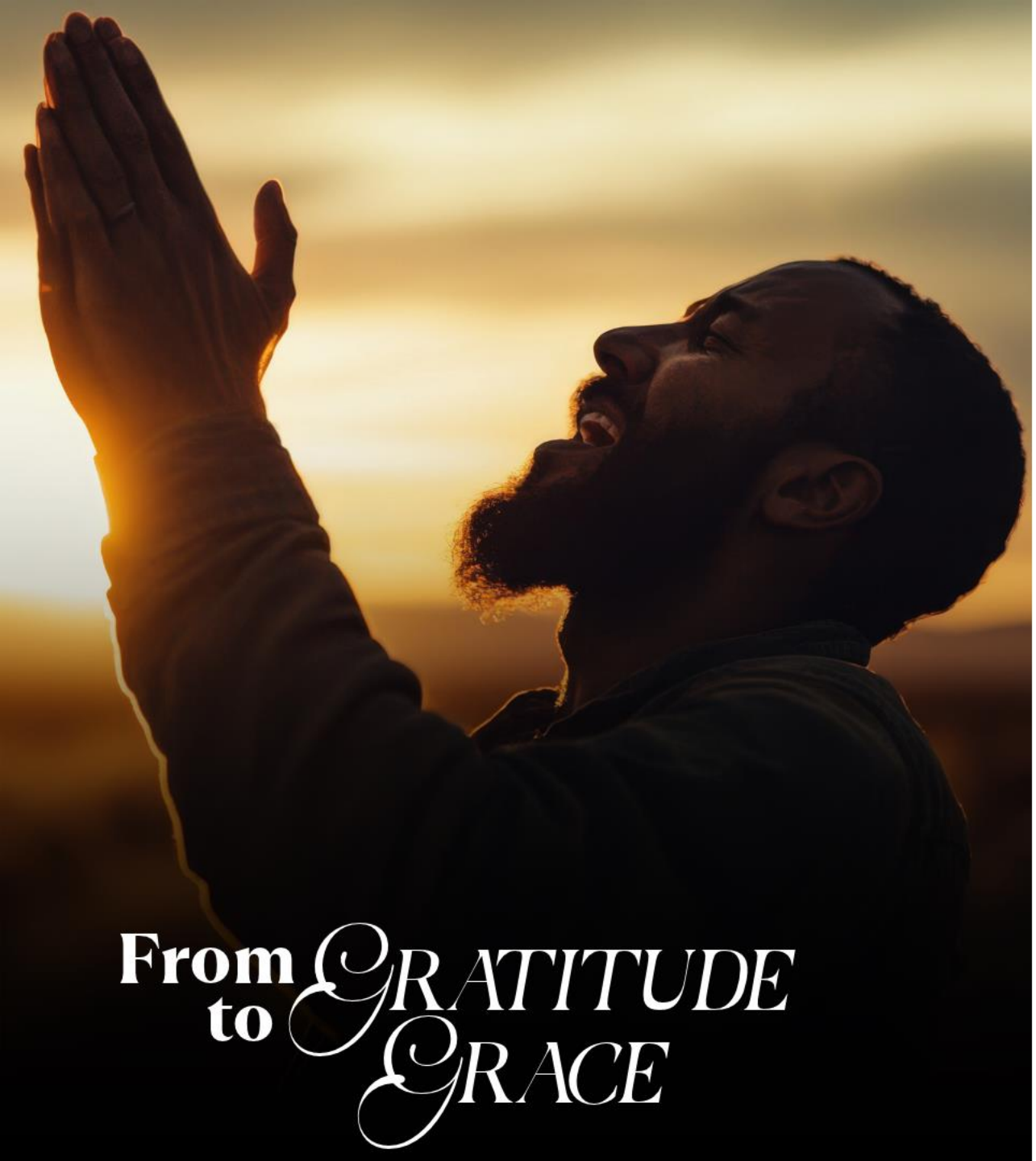
Senses of Grace

4. “Grace of giving,” referring to the virtuous act of sharing or of affording help (8:7).



Senses of Grace

5. “Offering” or “charitable work,” describing the collection as an expression and proof of goodwill (8:19).



Senses of Grace

6. “Thanks,” the verbal expression of gratitude for an act of benevolence (8:16; 9:15).

Grace Comes from God (v.1)

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Grace Shines Through Affliction (v.2)

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