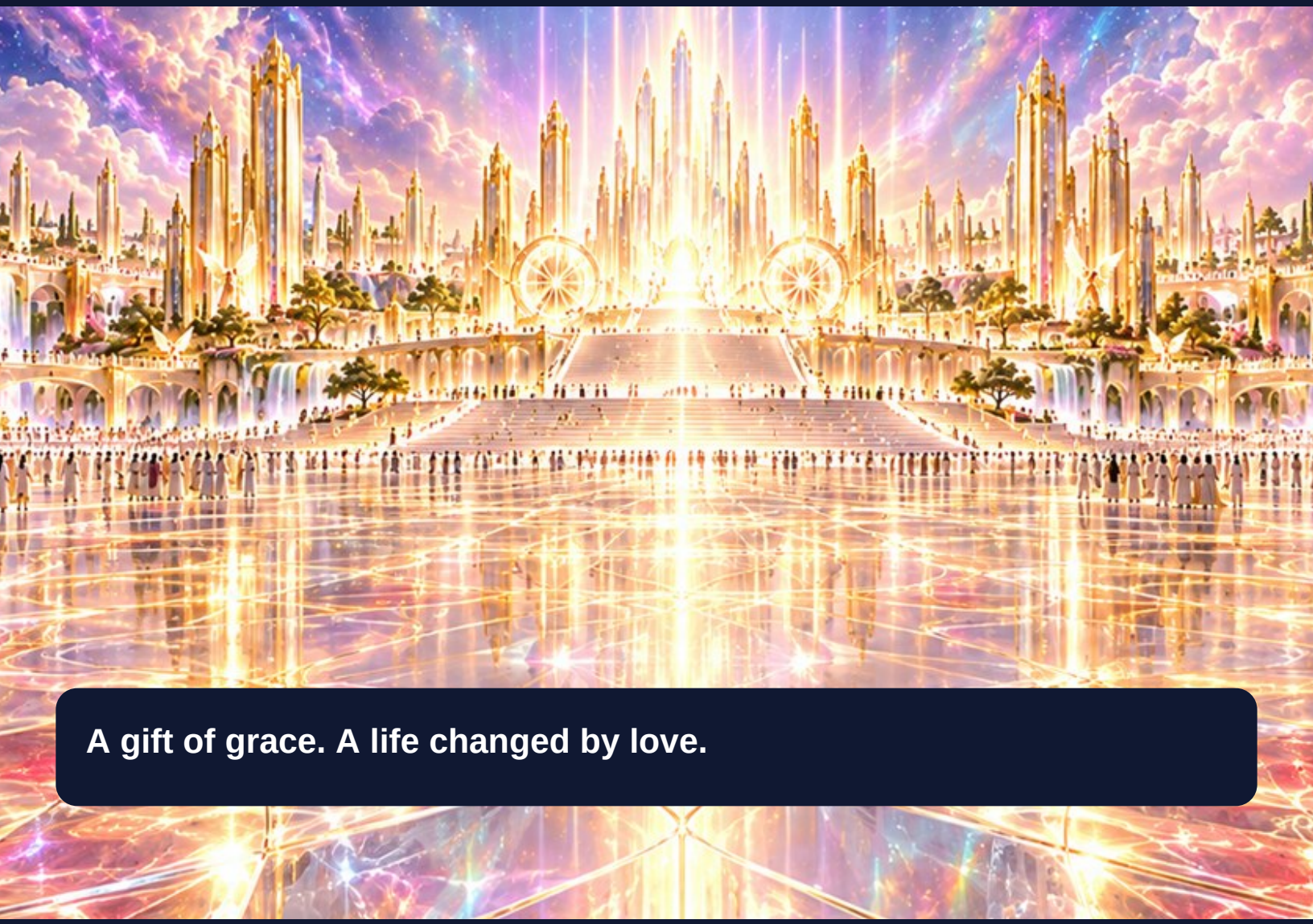
ISSUE 10 / VOLUME 2



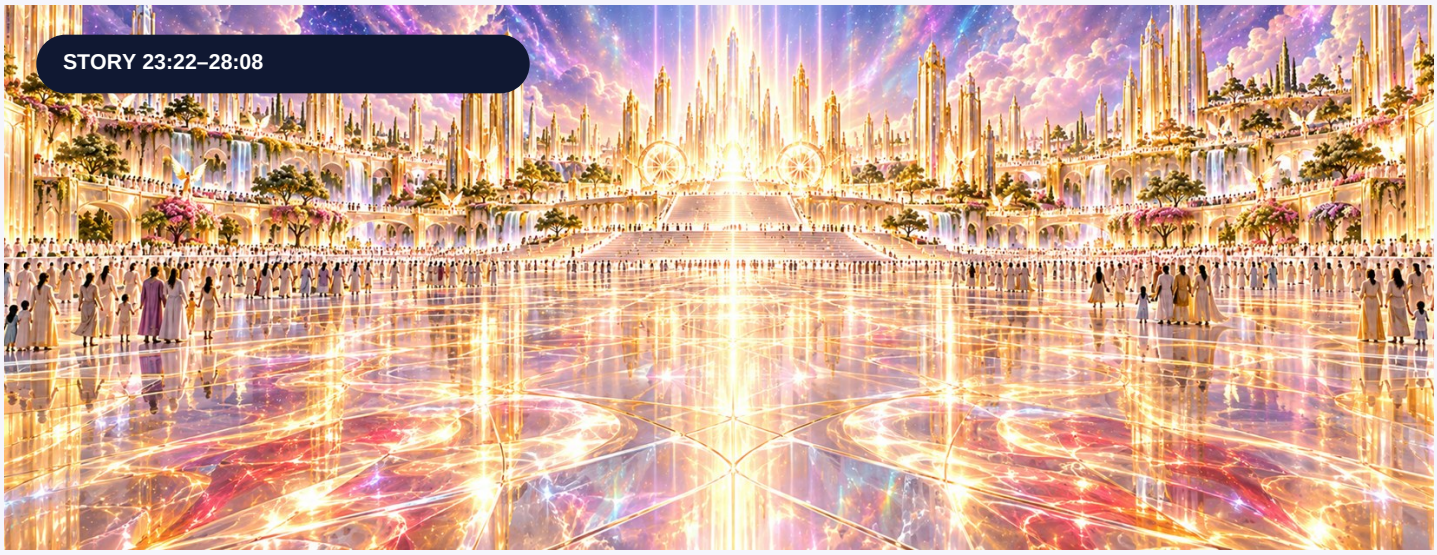
A gift of grace. A life changed by love.

WHY THE CROWNS?

Why does Jesus connect faith, grace, love, and commandments during the coronation?

WATCH / NOTICE / ASK

Stay with the narrator’s question



Existing movie environment concept / final scene still to be selected

Why does Jesus connect faith, grace, love, and commandments during the coronation?

Return to this part of Heaven’s Diary. Describe what the narrator sees, what surprises him, and what he has not yet understood. Read the Bible before accepting the story’s explanation as a doctrine.

Read / Observe

Open the Bible together

ROMANS 3:21-31

Paul locates justification in God’s grace through Christ, received by faith. What role is excluded for human boasting? Read verse 31 alongside the whole argument before deciding that faith either abolishes obedience or depends upon earning.

EPHESIANS 2:8-10 + JAMES 2:14-26

Paul rejects works as the basis of salvation; James challenges a claim to faith without living fruit. Identify the different questions each author answers. A verbal profession and genuine dependence on Christ are not necessarily the same thing.

JOHN 14:15 + HEBREWS 8:8-12

God’s Ten Commandments express His character and remain the moral standard for all people. Salvation is entirely by grace through faith; the Holy Spirit writes God’s law in the believer’s heart and empowers obedience. Obedience is salvation’s fruit, not its purchase price. Read Exodus 20:1-17 and Romans 8:1-4 alongside the new-covenant promise.

Look deeper

From the passage to Christ

THE CONNECTED PICTURE

Trace gift → relationship → transformed life. Compare the law written on stone with the law written on hearts; the new covenant changes the relationship and empowers obedience, rather than buying pardon through performance.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

Romans 3:21–31: On what basis is anyone justified? Ephesians 2:8–10: Put salvation and good works in order. James 2:14–26: What kind of faith is being challenged? John 14:15 and Hebrews 8:8–12: What does love-shaped obedience look like?

EXPLAIN IT IN THREE SENTENCES

First: what the passage says in its original setting. Second: how the Adventist understanding brings the passages together. Third: how the movie illustrates that conclusion. Do not let an attractive scene substitute for the argument. Ask which connection reveals Christ’s work or character.

PHOTOTHEOLOGY / MAP THE TEXT

Trace the biblical movement

1

GOD GIVES

Ephesians 2:8-9 / Salvation is grace, not wages.

↓

2

FAITH RECEIVES

Romans 3:22-26 / Trust rests in Christ’s saving work.

↓

3

LOVE BEARS FRUIT

Ephesians 2:10; John 14:15 / The saved life grows in obedience.

Use the passages to explain each step. A solid link needs textual support; use a dotted link for an illustration or a proposal that remains uncertain.

A fair objection

Questions worth taking seriously

IS THIS LEGALISM?

Legalism makes performance the basis of acceptance or treats rules as a substitute for trust in Christ. This study teaches the opposite order: grace brings life, and obedience is its fruit. Ask whether the practice in question expresses love or attempts to earn pardon.

DID CHRIST ABOLISH THE LAW?

Read Matthew 5:17-20, Romans 3:31, and Romans 7:7-12. Then distinguish moral obligation from covenant administration and ceremonial foreshadowing. Do not treat every use of law in Paul as an identical category without examining context.

WHAT ABOUT REVELATION 22:14?

The KJV reads do His commandments; many modern translations read wash their robes, reflecting a textual variant. State the difference openly. Build the grace-and-obedience case from converging undisputed passages rather than requiring this single wording to carry it.

VISUAL STUDY / YOUR TURN

Build the picture yourself

Draw a tree: root Christ’s grace, trunk faith, branches love, fruit concrete obedience. Put a passage beside each. Then redraw the mistaken order in which fruit supposedly buys the root, and explain why it fails.

TEXTUAL EVIDENCE

CONNECTION OR REPLY

QUESTION TO KEEP

RETURN TO THE STORY

Use your work to answer the opening question. Name one claim you can support directly, one inference, and one detail supplied by the film’s visual staging.

For activities needing more panels or columns, continue on a separate sheet.

A PERSONAL RESPONSE

Let the truth shape your life

READ AND REFLECT

Read the first passage again. Identify what it reveals about God, what it asks of you, and how Christ supplies hope or help. Pray with one specific response in mind.

Which command of Jesus could become a response to His love this week?

MY NEXT STEP

( ) I understand. ( ) I need more study.
( ) I would appreciate a Bible study conversation.

NEXT: Issue 11 / The King Who Serves

Participation and personal sharing are voluntary. Bring unresolved questions.

Leader companion

Guide the next conversation

75-MINUTE ROUTE

Scene and observation 10 / Bible investigation 20 / Christ-centered connection and map 15 / strongest objection 15 / visual activity 5 / response and prayer 10. Use a second meeting when the questions need it; do not force agreement to finish a schedule.

ISSUE-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

Ask what listeners hear when they hear commandments. Address perfection anxiety with Christ’s sufficiency, confession, and growth. Avoid suggesting a crown certifies a person never needed forgiveness.

SOURCE AND INVITATION

Story: Heaven’s Diary transcript, 23:22–28:08. Method: Phototheology Core Method v2. Apologetics sources and editorial limitations are mapped in the accompanying source register. This is new editorial wording, not a verbatim Ivor Myers quotation. Invite a voluntary next step and preserve unresolved questions.