November 8, 2020 - Inexplicable Grace

Inexplicable grace is **God's** grace.

We see it showing on the face and hear it in the words of the first Christian martyr.

Acts 6:8-15

Stephen was seized and falsely accused of blasphemy against God, the temple and the law.

Yet when they looked at Stephen "they saw that his face was like the face of an angel."

Luke gives us three descriptive reasons for Stephen's appearance:

- 1) <u>6:3</u>
- 2) 6:5b
- 3) 6:8

It was because of the closeness and intimacy of his relationship with God and the powerful presence of God's Spirit in him.

Stephen's face radiated the holiness and glory of the very presence of Almighty God.

Acts 7:48-60

He said he saw "the Son of Man", a crystal clear reference to Jesus as the Messiah, "standing" - Jesus witnessing Stephen's faithfulness.

Even as they stoned Stephen, by the inexplicable grace of God, he prayed "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

We need to seek to demonstrate grace as God demonstrates grace, even to those we would consider to be our enemies.

As we grow in Christlikeness by the transforming power of God's Holy Spirit, His inexplicable grace flows to us, in us, then through us to those around us.

- It will be evident in our lives.

2 Peter 3:18