

Grace & Peace

A Journey Through The Book of Colossians

Pastor Pablo Morales





Session 6

PEACE AT WORK





GRACE
doesn't stop
with you;
it flows
through you.

A person is silhouetted against a dark, starry night sky. They are standing on a dark, uneven ground, possibly a hill or a field. The person is holding a flashlight, which is turned on, casting a bright beam of light towards the right. The beam of light illuminates the text 'SOCIAL LIFE' which is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. The text is positioned within a semi-transparent rectangular frame that has a light blue glow around it. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with the stars providing a subtle background light.

SOCIAL LIFE



HOME LIFE

A silhouette of a person stands on a dark, low horizon, holding a flashlight that beams a bright light across a dark, starry night sky. The beam of light illuminates a rectangular area on the right side of the image, which contains the text 'WORK LIFE'.

WORK
LIFE



BACKGROUND

What struggle were the Colossians facing?



PATERFAMILIAS

ROME'S THREE SEBASTEIAE: AFRICA, SYRIA, AND PAPHLAGONIA
A. 199
1. The Sebasteia of Aphrodisias (199-200)
www.aphrodisias.org

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δοῦλος

SERVANT. BONDSERVANT. SLAVE.



10-20%

5 - 10 MILLION PEOPLE

War captives | Debt | Crime



κύριος

MASTER

LORD



**LABORERS &
FORCED LABOR**

Agriculture
Construction
Mines

**HOUSEHOLD
SERVANTS**

Cooks
Cleaners
Childcare

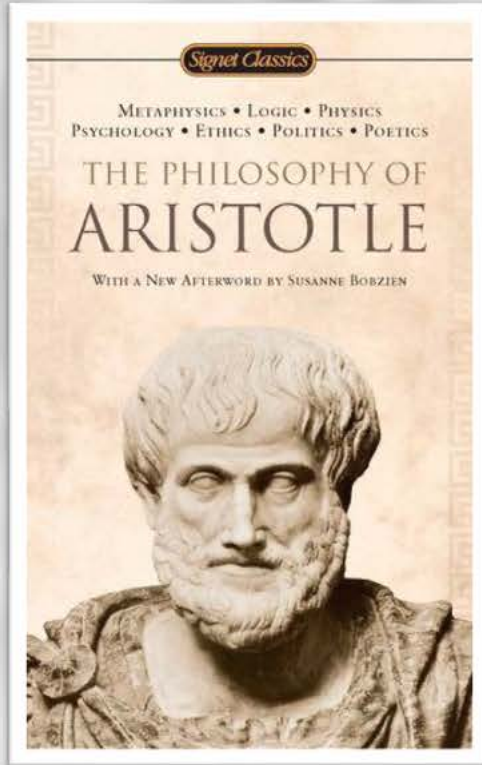
**SKILLED
PROFESSIONALS**

Teachers
Finance
Physicians

**ESTATE
MANAGERS**

Administrators
of large
properties





ARISTOTLE
(4th Century BC)

“The first and smallest parts
of a household are
master and slave,
husband and wife,
father and children...”

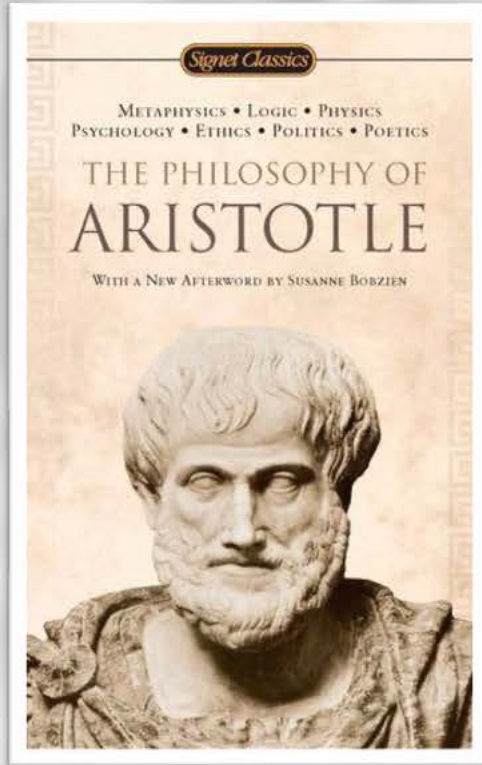
(Politics, 1.12)

ATTITUDES

5 - 10 MILLION PEOPLE

War captives | Debt | Crime

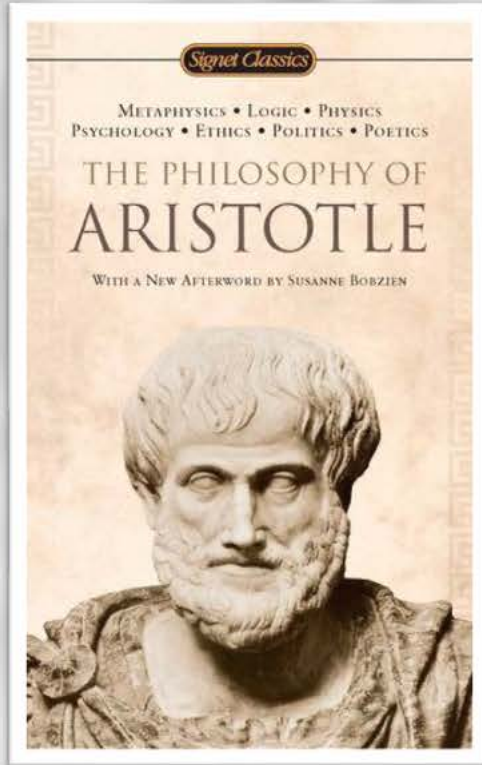




ARISTOTLE
(4th Century BC)

"Some men are by nature free,
and others slaves,
and that for these latter,
slavery is both
expedient and right."

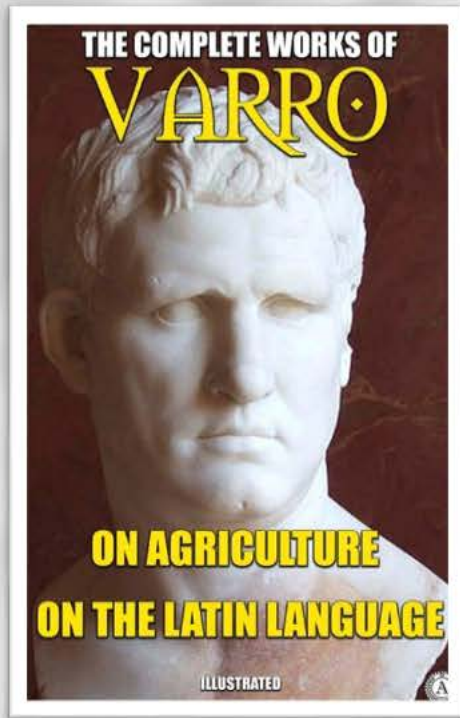
(Politics, 1.5)



ARISTOTLE
(4th Century BC)

"A slave is a living tool,
just as a tool
is an inanimate slave."

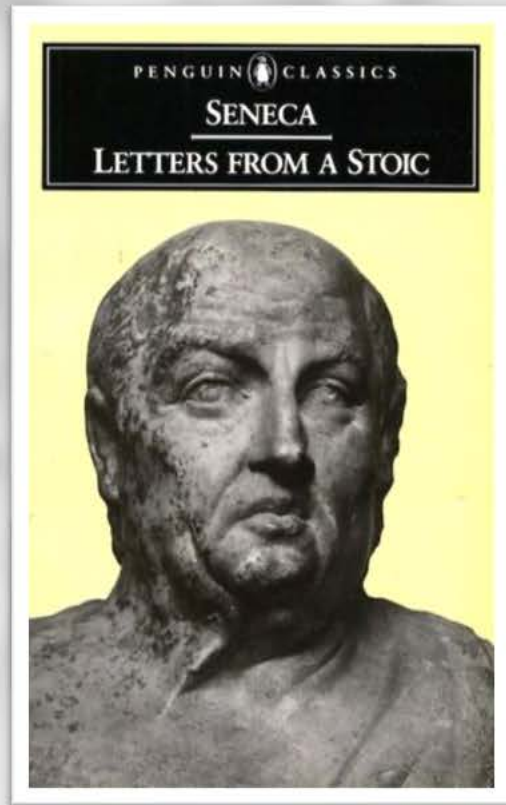
(Politics, 1.4)



VARRO
(1st Century BC)

"Slaves are the speaking tools,
oxen are the bellowing tools,
and carts are the silent tools."

(De Re Rustica 1.17.1)



SENECA
(1st Century AD)

"They are slaves."
Yes, but they are
also human beings.
"They are slaves."
Yes, but they share
the same breath,
the same life,
the same death."

(Letter 47)

Founder

Epaphras

Carrier

Tychicus

Master

Philemon

Slave

Onesimus

Apostle Paul



PHILEMON 1 (NIV)

¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you,
but now he has become useful
both to you and to me.



PHILEMON 1 (NIV)

...¹⁵ Perhaps the reason he was separated
from you for a little while
was that you might have him back forever—



PHILEMON 1 (NIV)

¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but better than a slave,
as a dear brother. He is very dear to me
but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man
and as a brother in the Lord.



ROMAN SLAVERY

Fear. Power. Control.

Who are you?

A living tool

Who do you serve?

My Owner

What is your goal?

Survival



Laborers

Household Servants

Skilled Professionals

Estate Managers

1. Identity Crisis: "I am just a tool."
2. Value Crisis: "I am not good enough."
3. Hope Crisis: "Life has no meaning."

Low self-worth

Anxiety

Insecure Attachment

PTSD

Internalized Inferiority

Dissociation

Social Withdrawal

Shame

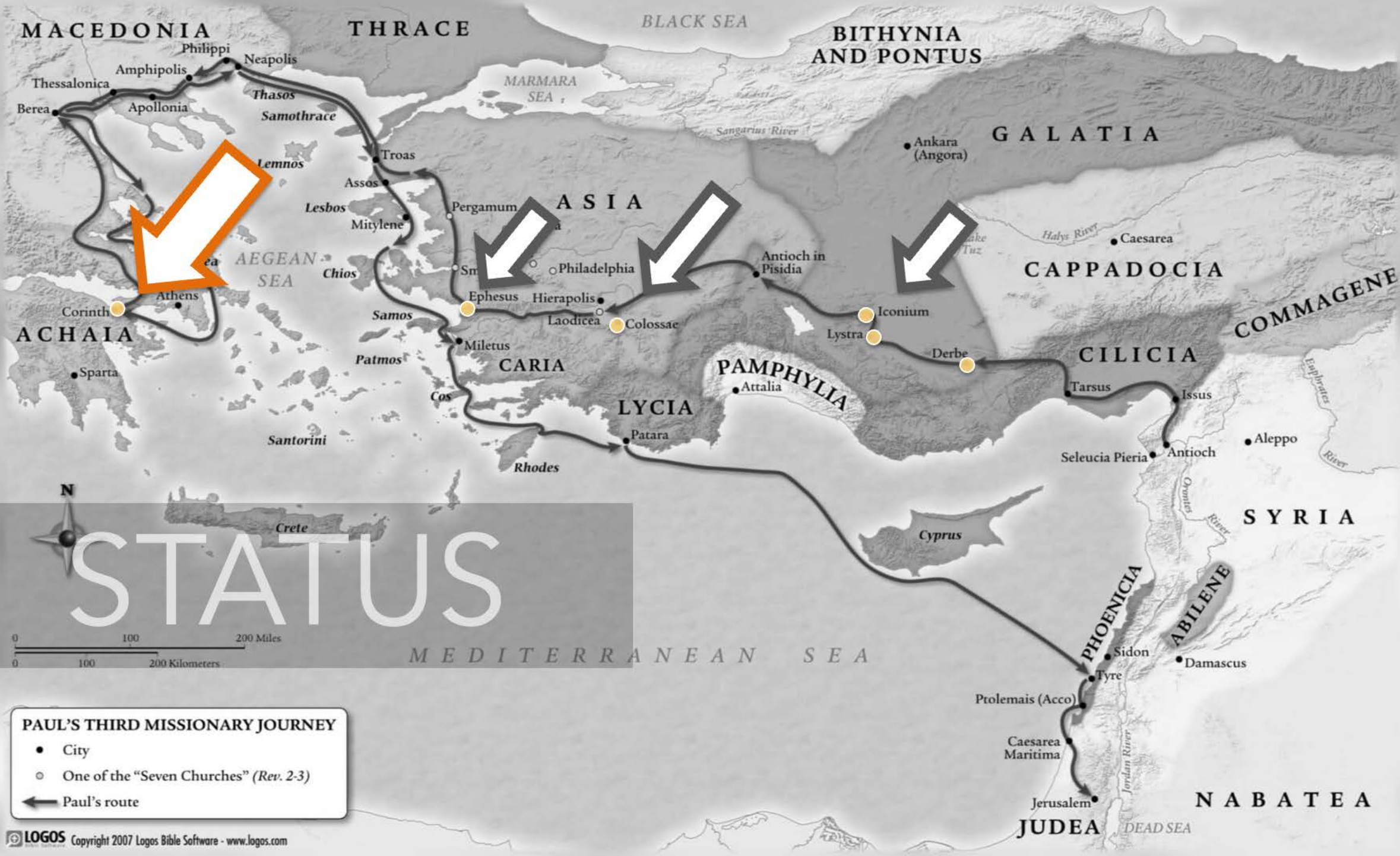
Loneliness



FOUNDATIONS

What did Paul teach Christians about their work?





PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" (Rev. 2-3)
- ← Paul's route

1 CORINTHIANS 7 (NIV)

²¹ Were you a slave when you were called?
Don't let it trouble you—
although if you can gain your freedom, do so.



1 CORINTHIANS 7 (NIV)

²² For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ's slave.



1 CORINTHIANS 7 (NIV)

²³ You were bought at a price;
do not become slaves
of human beings.



κύριος δοῦλος



GALATIANS 3 (NIV)

²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children
of God through faith,
²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.



GALATIANS 3 (NIV)

28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither slave nor free,
nor is there male and female,
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.





PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" (Rev. 2-3)
- Paul's route

COLOSSIANS 3 (NIV)

²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters
in everything; and do it, not only
when their eye is on you and to win their favor,
but with sincerity of heart
and reverence for the Lord.



COLOSSIANS 3 (NIV)

²³ Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men,
²⁴ since you know that you will receive
an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.
It is the Lord Christ you are serving.



COLOSSIANS 3 (NIV)

²⁵ Anyone who does wrong
will be repaid for his wrong,
and there is no favoritism.



COLOSSIANS 4 (NIV)

¹ Masters, provide your slaves
with what is right and fair,
because you know
that you also have a Master in heaven.





Ownership/Power

Master

Subdue & Govern

Slave

Fear. Power. Control.



Ownership/Power

Master

Subdue & Govern

Slave

Fear. Power. Control.

Jesus

LORD

One Family in Christ Forever

Master / Servant

Fairness & Respect

All your heart

ROMAN SLAVERY

Fear. Power. Control.

Who are you?

A living tool

Who is your Master?

My Owner

What is your goal?

Survival

CHRISTIAN WORK

Love. Service. Impact.

Who are you?

A Servant of Jesus

Who is your Master?

Jesus

What is your goal?

Eternal Impact



1. Identity Crisis: "I am just a tool."
2. Value Crisis: "I am not good enough."
3. Hope Crisis: "Life has no meaning."

Low self-worth

Anxiety

Insecure Attachment

Stress

Internalized Inferiority

Dissociation

Social Withdrawal

Shame

Loneliness

COLOSSIANS 3 (NIV)

²³ Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men,
²⁴ since you know that you will receive
an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.
It is the Lord Christ you are serving.





1. Who are you?

STILL LOOKING

FINDING THE PEACE
OF GOD IN JOB LOSS



VICKI
HUFFMAN



1. Denial or shock
2. Anger
3. Bargaining
4. Depression
5. Acceptance



1. Who are you?
2. Whom are you working for?



1. Who are you?
2. Whom are you working for?
3. What is your goal?



"My life
before Christ
was focused on
making money...
an existence of
self-absorbance."

Actor Stephen Baldwin



AUGUSTA

"A cleaning woman"



"My life
is God's life in me,
to do what He wants."

Actor Stephen Baldwin



New Master
New Attitude
New Purpose

Ken Sande & Kevin Johnson

RESOLVING *everyday* CONFLICT



Sundays
9:00 AM

8 Weeks

A background image of a couple holding hands. The person on the left is wearing a dark blue shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a light-colored shirt. They are holding hands in the center of the frame. A large red triangle is on the left side, and a white box with a thin border is on the right side.

The Marriage Course

Starting
August 23
6:00 PM

7 Weeks

A clay jar, resembling the one from the Parable of the Talents, is shown cracked and broken. A bright, golden light shines through the crack, illuminating the scene. The jar sits on a dark, reflective surface with some debris scattered around its base. The background is dark and moody.

- Personal Question -

**IS JESUS
LORD**
**OF YOUR
CAREER?**



Grace & Peace

NEW MASTER
NEW ATTITUDE
NEW PURPOSE