

THEME: WHO or WHAT is God's Unspeakable Gift?

**INTRODUCTION:** One eloquent Bible preacher confidently said of God's Unspeakable Gift:

"I hesitate not to say, at once, it is God's GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."

Consider how the Holy Spirit is properly and finally the GIFT OF GOD.

A guardian angel might have been chosen by God to be with us as believers, and minister around us, but an angel can never indwell the believer. It can never be our enlightener, comforter and the mighty advocate helping us in our prayer life.

The Lord Jesus has gone up from us into Heaven, and He is at the Right Hand of the Father interceding for us. Where then can we find this ever present help we need?

It is found in the ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose special Power is beyond mortal language to convey its magnitude. Didn't Jesus say . . .?

Acts 1:8a: "... ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you:"

Acts 2:38: Then Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit."

THE HOLY SPIRIT is resident in all the SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND FRUIT which are so urgently needed by the Christian while here on this earth. The earth is the devil's territory until The Lord Jesus comes and puts him in the Lord's jail house. (Rev. H. Alford Volume 4 pg. 274)

## THE HOLY SPIRIT is referred to as a GIFT in many Scripture passages.

Acts 8:20: But Peter said unto him, "Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money."

Acts 10:45: And they of the circumcision which believed [Believed in Jesus Christ] were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 11:17: Forasmuch then as God gave them the like Gift as He did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

**QUESTION:** Why does the Apostle Paul not mention what this Unspeakable Gift is?

#### **ANSWER:**

THE HOLY SPIRIT is the ONE WHO inspired and taught these APOSTLES what to WRITE.

THE HOLY SPIRIT is the ONE WHOM JESUS said would <u>NOT</u> SPEAK of HIMSELF but SHALL GLORIFY *THE LORD JESUS*.

John 16:13: Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide



you into all Truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come.

The question arises: Is THE HOLY SPIRIT BRAGGING on JESUS HERE?

#### Jesus clarifies:

John 16:14: "He [the Holy Spirit] shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you."

### **GOD gave HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON**

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:15: But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one [Adam] many be dead, much more the Grace of God, and the Gift by Grace, which is by One Man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.



1 John 4:10: Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Romans 8:32: He that spared <u>not</u> His Own Son, but delivered Him [Jesus] up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

### 1 Timothy 2:5-6:

Acts 20:28: Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His Own Blood.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Revelation 1:5: And from Jesus Christ, Who is the faithful Witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His Own Blood.



What makes this GIFT UNSPEAKABLE or what makes this gift BEYOND PLACING a PRICE TAG?

#### **UNESTIMATABLE!**

The HEART of the GIVER makes the GIFT DEAR and PRECIOUS. When a gift is given out of a heart overflowing with love, then the gift is beyond placing a price tag on it. When God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world to redeem us from all iniquity and rescue us out of (redeem us from) the devil's pawn shop, language fails me to show how GREAT A LOVE He manifested. Jesus describes this GREAT-A-LOVE in John 3:16.

## GOD'S LOVE is shown in being MERCIFUL, GRACIOUS, KIND, and LONGSUFFERING

- towards this lost and sinful humanity -
- even when HE knew how shameful and wicked and thankless human beings would treat HIS UNSPEAKABLE GIFT.

Yet, GOD'S LOVE overruled that disgraceful treatment His Son would receive, and STILL GOD sent JESUS anyway.

Many people have a habit of evaluating birthday presents or Christmas presents which they have received from others. Some will even look carefully to see if the price tag has been left on it by mistake. There are others who will even dare to take the GIFT back to the store and exchange it for something they desire more.

One disgruntled giver of presents lamented: "I always give worthwhile and expensive gifts and presents, but I receive cheap or worthless ones in return."

**QUESTION:** Is such a person selfish in their motive in giving? Or, are they judging the motive of the giver's heart rightly?

**ANSWER:** A gift should not be judged by the price tag, but by the motive of the gift giver.

Do you PLACE the CORRECT VALUE on GOD'S PRECIOUS GIFT of HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON? What kind of a sacrifice did God have to make in presenting His dearly beloved Son? What benefits do we obtain as recipients of this MARVELOUS GIFT?

The apostle Paul calls **Jesus GOD'S INESTIMATABLE GIFT.** Paul can't describe in words or compute it with figures, for he is at a loss in either case.

The GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

### WHAT is ETERNAL LIFE WORTH to YOU?

**Eternal life is a PERSON.** 

and that person

is THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

1 John 1:2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that Eternal Life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us);

**QUESTION**: If I were to ask you: What is ETERNAL LIFE WORTH to YOU?

A \$100,000 . . . A million dollars . . . A Billion dollars . . . A Trillion dollars?

**ANSWER**: I would say ETERNAL LIFE is both a PERSON and a GIFT BESTOWED by that PERSON - WHO is none other than THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

To have HIM <u>and</u> ETERNAL LIFE as a GIFT are worth more to me than all the wealth of the world.

1 John 5:11: And this is the record, that God hath given to us Eternal Life, and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:12: He that hath the Son hath Life; and he that hath <u>not</u> the Son of God hath not life.

GOD could have sent Michael, or perhaps Gabriel, or some Seraphim, or Cherubim, but THE LOVE WHICH HE HAD FOR US caused HIM to PAY the SUPREME PRICE for our REDEMPTION.

He sent His Only Begotten Son, that we might have LIFE THROUGH JESUS' NAME. There is NO OTHER WAY!

1 John 4:9: In this was manifested the Love of God toward us, because that God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

Have you been saying: "I just can't feel the Christmas spirit this year." That's too bad. It is nearly like saying: "I feel no joy that Jesus came into the world." You are confessing that His presence in your heart is not a living reality to you.

Maybe you need all the more to hear anew the Christmas message.

## I THANK GOD FOR CHRISTMAS.

I would that it lasted all year. Perhaps a cynic is thinking: "Yes, you would after that wonderful offering you got last week." I look past the gift to the LOVE that motivated that wonderful tangible expression. For on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, all the world is a much better place.

It seems men and women are more loveable. There are more friendships renewed, more glee, laughter, more excitement, and more togetherness. Yes, and there is more giving of ourselves to one another.

It seems like love seeps into hearts everywhere, and miracles happen. When Christmas doesn't make your heart swell up within you until it nearly bursts . . . and fills your eyes with tears . . . makes you feel all soft and warm inside . . . then you know that something in you must be dead.

I hope that God will make this celebration come alive in you again this Christmas.

Christmas comes every year whether or not the world seems to be ready, or in tune with it. Christmas comes every year with its annual reminder that the God Who made us and loves us never leaves us to stew in our own juice, even though the stew may be of our own cooking. Rather, He chooses to share this love of His with us . . . in giving us His Son into our hearts which will make a *transforming influence* to bear upon our whole personality.

Evil and corrupting passions will be changed to Love and Joy and Peace . . . to bloom within all our hearts.

## **PEACE**

CHRIST was BORN in a MANGER, but that is not the REAL PLACE . . .

Christ wants to be BORN IN OUR HEART.

That's the ONLY REAL PLACE.

When HE is in your heart you have *PEACE*.



Colossians 1:20: And, having made peace through the Blood of His Cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in Heaven.

Paul tells us JESUS made PEACE THROUGH the BLOOD of HIS CROSS.

That's the price Jesus paid so **you can freely have peace**. Peace . . . the Gift that can't be purchased with money.

The absence of Peace in the world is caused by the Absence of the Prince of Peace in the hearts of its people. Where sin reigns, Peace is driven out.

#### Where PEACE REIGNS . . . CHRIST REIGNS.

Peace is a gift which cannot be purchased with money. Peace is free as a GIFT, only if we go to the GIFT GIVER, only True Source.

We are trying to force peace on warring nations by building up our military hardware . . . we have a stockpile that is costing the tax payers billions of dollars. Still we have to flex our muscles and tell the world's despotic rulers: "If you don't behave yourselves, we will have to box your ears."

Peace <u>needs to come into the heart before</u> we can be peaceable towards others. The wicked are like the troubled sea . . .

#### Isaiah 57:20-21:



- <sup>20</sup> But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.
- <sup>21</sup> "There is no peace", saith my God, to the wicked.

## There are SEVERAL THINGS which I REALLY MISS during CHRISTMAS, at our home.

- The little manger scene in the window, the shed, the little figures of The Holy Family . . . lovingly arranged on the fireplace mantle. (We no longer have a fireplace.)
- The Christmas tree with all its decorations from yester year. (We gave ours to the children.)
- The floral arrangements my mother placed on the dining room table with all the little doodads.
- Getting the Christmas tree would be a family event. There was always that closet into which you were forbidden to look. Dad or mother used to move through the house mysteriously with bundles under their coats

- ... and our out-stretched necks nearly got a crick from being out of shape.
- There was the fragrance of home-made cookies, fruit cakes, and candy being made by mother.
- There was the soft Christmas music playing on our Victrola. You would have to crank it up by hand to rewind the spring.
- We had Christmas bells on the door . . . Holly wreaths in all the windows.
- The Christmas stockings were all decoratively fixed on the fireplace.

It was hard to go to sleep on Christmas Eve. How many times I would hear mother say: "Children, you have to go to sleep."

Finally, Christmas morning would arrive.

We didn't have to try and catch the spirit of Christmas . . . IT CAUGHT US!

I want to let you know that THE REAL CHRISTMAS CAN'T COME TO YOU if YOU are ASLEEP.

You have to be wide awake <u>inside</u> . . . Christmas is the beginning of Christianity. It is God sending His Son into the world that we might have Everlasting Life, the Greatest Gift of all Gifts.

**EVERLASTING LIFE cannot be bought WITH MONEY.** 

**Everlasting Life is a gift!** 

It is God's Promise to the Trusting Heart:

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever

believeth in Him should <u>not</u> perish, but have Everlasting Life.

# Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the Gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christmas is to be a joyous occasion . . . good tidings of great joy. Do you have that joy? **JESUS** is the **JOY GIVER**.

If you have JESUS, then you are supposed to have this Joy. I think we all need more of Jesus, don't you?

1 Peter 1:8:

Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with Joy Unspeakable and full of Glory.

God's kind of Joy is not for sale . . . it is His Gift . . . and God wants you to have it. With His Gift, we will not observe or spend Christmas with an imitation joy or a temporary joy.

When the Lord Jesus has His rightful place in your heart, you will have the Spirit of Christ dwelling inside you.

I wish you all the Love, and Joy and Peace found Only in the True Source – The Lord Jesus Christ.

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