

CHRISTMAS, GOD'S GIFT TO MAN

Galatians 4:4-5 2 Corinthians 9:15 Romans 6:23

Introduction: Christmas is the main season of giving gifts. Names are drawn, numbers are drawn, bosses give employees gifts, classroom students swap gifts, everybody is giving gifts and receiving gifts interested. Some gifts are wrapped, some are not, some are put under a Christmas tree and some are given out at Christmas parties. Everyone who receives a Christmas gift does three things about the gift received. First thought is given about the One who gave the gift. Then there is thought about the gift's COST. Lastly there is the reaction of the one RECEIVING the gift. Paul considered a gift when he wrote: *"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift. (2 Corinthians 9:15)*

I. CONSIDER THE GIVER OF THE GIFT

1. WHO the giver is determines the WHAT.
 - The wealthy and wise are expected to give a great gift.
 - The poor or unthoughtful are not expected to give much of anything.
2. Considering some things about WHO gave the gift would be:
 - Ability - Wisdom in knowing what to give - the Feelings the giver has for the one to whom the gift is given.
3. God is the supreme giver.
 - God's ability is limitless and could give everyone a world of his/her own and never miss it, BUT God gave more than worlds to us. HE GAVE US HIS SON!
 - Some givers use poor judgment in choosing a gift but not so with God.
 - God knows all our needs and His gift meets every need of every soul.
 - God's love for us prompted Him to give His BEST and He gave us His ONLY Son.

II. CONSIDER THE GIFT OF THE GIVER

1. The first thing we do is look to see WHO the gift is from, then we unwrap it, however God's gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, cannot be unwrapped.
 - God's Son is called an "unspeakable" gift.
2. The next thing we do is to consider the value of the gift.
 - What did it cost?
 - How much is it really worth?
 - How long will it last?
3. God's gift is indeed the "unspeakable" gift.
 - It cost is priceless. The whole universe would have been as pocket change compared to the birth and death of God's only Son.

4. Many gifts are useless, having no practical value.
 - Some gifts even bring physical harm.
 - God's gift brings salvation, full, free, and forever.
5. God's gift saves us from the penalty of sin.
 - Even though we deserve Hell, those who believe in His Son will not go there.
6. God's gift saves us from condemnation of sin.
 - It cleanses and makes us fit for God's heaven.
7. God's gift saves us from the chains of sin.
 - It breaks sin's hold on us for all eternity.
8. God's gift justifies us from sin.
 - It brings complete forgiveness of our sins.
9. God's gift gives us peace with God.
 - We escape Hell and are allowed to enter Heaven.
10. Our Christmas gifts hardly last through the season but God's gifts lasts forever, guaranteed for all eternity.

III. THE RESPONSE OF THE RECEIVER

1. So many are "thankless" and show no feeling of gratitude.
 - God's heart is often broken by the treatment of Jesus by people.
 - *"...He is still despised and rejected of men..."*
2. The first response of the receive of God's Son is to RECEIVE the gift.
 - How would it feel to you if you almost went bankrupt to buy a gift for someone and then have that person throw it to the ground in refusal?
 - When a person refuses Jesus, when a person refuses to accept Him, that's exactly what happens.
3. If you want to make Jesus happy, then receive Him as Savior and Lord.
 - Then get on your knees before Him and offer Him Thanks and Gratitude.

CONCLUSION:

1. God has given so much to us. He has given us His only begotten Son who died on a cross and was resurrected so that we might be forgiven of our sins and restored to fellowship with God and to become a part of His family and have an eternal home in Heaven with God.
2. God has everything except YOU if you are not a believer in His Son, Jesus Christ.
3. God has offered a costly gift to the whole world, what will you do? Will you accept it or ignore it?