

"THE GIFT OF GOD"
JAMES 1:17; JOHN 3:16; 2 CORINTHIANS 9:15
CHRISTMAS EVE SERMON
DECEMBER 24, 2016

INTRO: This evening during the service we have had many passages of scripture read to us concerning the INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST! We have also heard special music and have sung congregationally great CHRISTMAS HYMNS AND CAROLS that relate to the INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST. What a blessing it has been to focus on the INCARNATION OF OUR WONDERFUL LORD. **BUT HOW DOES ALL OF THAT RELATE TO US TONIGHT...RIGHT NOW? IS WHAT WE HAVE READ AND HAVE SUNG JUST AN ANCIENT STORY OR DOES IT HAVE REAL MEANING TO US ON DECEMBER 24, 2016?** Well, it does have GREAT MEANING TO ALL OF US and that GREAT MEANING is all bundled up in **THE GIFT OF GOD TO ALL MANKIND. LETS' TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!**

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WHAT IS A GIFT? A gift is **"SOMETHING GIVEN VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT PAYMENT IN RETURN TO HONOR A PERSON ON OCCASION OR TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE THAT IS NOT EARNED OR DESERVED BY THE RECEIVER."**

-Webster's College Dictionary

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NOTE: During the Christmas Season the real subject that rises above everything else is the **WONDERFUL GIFT GOD HAS GIVEN TO MANKIND. HAVE YOU YET RECEIVED IT?**

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WHAT IS THE GIFT OF GOD? **IT IS THE INDESCRIBABLE GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT OF SALVATION FROM SIN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST MOTIVATED BY GOD'S LOVE FOR US ALL.**

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I. THE NEED OF THE GIFT OF GOD

- A. It is a Genuine Need - Romans 3:23
- B. It is a Grave Need - Romans 6:23a

II. THE MOTIVATION OF THE GIFT OF GOD

- A. The Love of God - John 3:16 ("God so loved the world")
- B. The Grace of God - Ephesians 2:5 ("By Grace are ye saved")

III. THE PRICE OF THE GIFT OF GOD

- A. For Us - It is a **FREE GIFT.**
- B. For God - It took the **LIFE OF HIS SON.**
- C. For Christ - It was His **VOLUNTEER ACTION**

IV. THE VALUE OF THE GIFT OF GOD

- A. The Value of Sin Forgiven
- B. The Value of an Eternal Relationship with God
- C. The Value of a Hope for the Future

V. THE RECIPIENT OF THE GIFT OF GOD

- A. God's Gift is Available to All people Everywhere
- B. God's Gift is Available to **YOU**

CONCLUSION/APPLICATION:

- 1) **Thank God for His Unspeakable Gift.**
- 2) **Receive the Gift of God**