

Everyone Deserves a Gift on Christmas

Matthew 2:1-2, 7-11 (NLT)

¹Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ²“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”

⁷Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”

⁹After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Luke 2:8-12 (NKJV)

⁸Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

1. The Gift of God's Presence.

Matthew 1:23 (NLT)

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

Psalms 16:11 (NKJV)

“In your presence, there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

2. The Gift of God's Peace.

Isaiah 26:3 (NLT)

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

The word “keep” literally means to guard, protect, hide and conceal.

3. The Gift of God's Promises.

Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)

Now the Lord had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country, From your family
And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.

² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you
And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses
you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

4. The Gift of Purpose.

John 14:12 (NKJV)

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do,