

AND HE GAVE GIFTS INTO MEN

Pastor's Bible Hour – December 21, 2008

Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson

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Rom 6:20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

Rom 6:21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

Rom 6:22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the **end everlasting life.**

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; **but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

THE GIFT OF MINISTRY

Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Rom 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent?

1Co 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

Eph 4:8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

Eph 4:9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

Eph 4:10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

THE GIFT OF REDEMPTION

1. **The Gift of Calvary: The Greater Love**

Joh 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

- a. No higher expression of love could be given, our lives are the most valuable object we possess; and when a man is willing to lay that down for his friends or his country, it shows the utmost extent of love.

Gal 1:4 **Who gave himself for our sins**, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, **and gave himself for me.**

1Jn 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, **because he laid down his life for us:** and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. (“*They shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*”)

Tit 2:14 **Who gave himself for us**, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

GOD THE GIVER OF BOTH NATURAL AND ETERNAL LIFE

Natural Life:

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Ecc 12:6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Eternal Life:

Psa 36:9 For with thee *is* the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Psa 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

I am come that they might have life; that the sheep might have life, or the elect of God might have life, both spiritual and eternal; who, as the rest of mankind, are by nature dead in trespasses and sins, and liable in themselves to an eternal death:

Job 14:14 If a man die, shall he live *again*? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

change — my release, as a soldier at his post released from duty by the relieving guard.

Php 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

this vile body, in the resurrection morn, shall be stripped of all its vileness, baseness, and meanness; and be changed, not as to its substance, nor as to its form and figure, which shall always remain

same, as did the substance and form of our Lord's body after his resurrection; but as to its qualities, it shall be changed from corruption to incorruption, 1Co 15:42, from mortality to immortality, from weakness to power, from dishonour to glory, and be free from all sin forever.

A LOVE THAT SURPASSES HUMAN REASON

Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

Eph 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

1. **To think of His investment in us and His great love towards us:** That while we were yet sinners walking down a wicked road on our way to a devil's hell. "The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ intersected our lives and reached out to us with His great love and drew us to the foot of the cross - where He forgave us of all are sins and filled us with His Holy Spirit.

WE LOVE HIM BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US!

IT IS CHRISTMAS TIME

1. The Christmas season is a time of remembering the Birth of our Lord and is also a family time to remember each other with that special gift. Christian's celebrate Christmas different then the world; we should be gift givers through out the year.
2. Last year's statistics, shoppers on one day, the day after thanksgiving spent 8 billion dollars across America in one day, plus another 4.1 billion on credit cards. What it they would have used a portion of that money to build more churches.
3. This year we are putting Christ's mission and purpose back into Christmas and later on in this service we will bring our wrapped gift offerings or envelopes and put them on the altar to help plant a new

church in a city that does not have a UPC church. *“The Best Gift ought to go to Jesus.”*

JESUS IS BOTH THE GIFT AND THE GIVER OF SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE

1. He is both the Creator and the Sacrificial Lamb
2. He the Beginning and the Ending
3. He's the Bread and the Water
4. He's the root and the offspring of David
5. He's the Saviour and Emmanuel God with us
6. He's the Door and He's the way
7. He's the truth and the light
8. He's the Mighty God and the Everlasting Father
9. He's the great I AM and the only wise God.
10. He's the River of Water in a dry place, and the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.
11. He's the Kinsman Redeemer and the Great High Priest
12. He is both Lord and Christ
13. He is the Good Shepherd and the Great Shepherd and He is my Shepherd.

GOD'S GIFTS TO US

1. The gift of Eternal life
2. The gift of Ministry to the church
3. The gift of Repentance
4. The gift of the Holy Ghost
5. The gift of a clean holy life
6. The gift of choice
7. The gift of all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue.
8. The gift of Heaven and Eternal life.

HOW CAN I REPAY GOD FOR HIS GREAT LOVE TOWARD ME?

Psa 116:12 What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me?

Psa 116:13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

Psa 116:14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.

1. **The Measure of our Love is gauged by the measure of our giving. Calvary is the measure of His love for us as He surrendered His whole life for us. We must surrender our whole life for Him for loving us so much.**

2. **Paul said he felt in Debt by Christ's overwhelming love toward him**

Rom 1:14 I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.

Rom 1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

3. **There is a world that is plunging quickly into a lake of fire we must reach them before it is to late.**

- a. Worldwide, 3 people die every second, 180 every minute and nearly 11,000 every hour. **every day 250,000 people** either go to either heaven or Hell.

4. Too many people today are worried about the cost instead of the mission. What's this going to cost me to be a soul winner, prayer warriors, teach home bible studies, pick kids up for Sunday School. Why it might cost me one of my Saturday's to help the church go forward and to rescue a soul from hell.

Sa 24:24 And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy *it* of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

2Sa 24:25 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.