

The Gifts Of God

- I. The Christmas season is a time of giving and receiving gifts.
 - A. No one would ever think of leaving their Christmas gifts unwrapped come Christmas day.
 - 1. every gift ... every present is opened

- B. Our Heavenly Father is a GIVER OF GIFTS:

- 1. James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights,"
 - a. God's gifts are described as
 - (1) Good Def. benefit
 - (2) Perfect Def: complete
 - (a) Amp Trans: free, large, full
- 2. Yet, many of God's Gifts to mankind goes unopened
 - a. and people, including Born Again Christians fail to receive of the gifts their Heavenly Father has provided for them

- II. Of course, the greatest gift from God is: **SALVATION**

- A. Eph 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: **it is the gift of God**":

- 1. Salvation / Eternal Life
 - a. cannot be earned by:
 - (1) good works
 - (2) religious works
 - (3) social status
 - (4) nor can salvation be bought with money
 - (a) "For by grace are ye are saved through faith"
 - (a) Grace is God's unmerited / unearned favor
- 2. God has made the first move to bring us salvation and restore mankind's relationship with Him:
 - a. Rom5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we

were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

(1) That is Grace ... That is the Love God has for you and I ... He provided The Gift of Salvation for all mankind:

(a) 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".

B. Sin has separated each of us from God:

1. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

a. That includes you and I

2. But due to God's love for us He sent Jesus to Save us from our sin:

a. Matthew 1:21 "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: **for he shall save his people from their sins**".

C. Many people are religious, but they have not received God's Gift of Eternal Life by accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior:

1. Jesus met a woman by the well who fell into this category in:

a. Jn 4:9 "Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him (Jesus), How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

(1) Do you personally know The Gift of God

(2) Have you accepted God's Gift of Salvation through Jesus Christ

(3) Have you been Born Again

D. The first Christmas Tree / "**Christ - mas**" Tree

1. Was an old wooden Cross

- a. according to Gal 3:13 Jesus: "hangeth on a tree" / a wooden cross
- b. Upon which He shed His sinless Blood
- c. So that upon our repentance ... upon our Calling upon the Name of Jesus ... Upon our accepting God's Gift of Eternal Life: Jesus
 - (a) His precious blood will wash away your sins and bring your forgiveness
 - (b) and bring your God's Gift of Eternal Life

E. Are you saved ... Are you Born Again

- 1. Have you repented of your sin and accepted God's Gift of Eternal life
- 2. Did you once accept God' Gift of eternal life and then turn back to your sin?
 - a. No longer living a Holy Life
- 3. Are you spiritually lukewarm and now take God's Gift of salvation for granted:
 - a. not reading your bible and praying on a regular basis
 - b. unfaithful to attending the House of God
- 4. If you fall into any of these three situations ... I ant to pray for you:
 - a. If you need prayer ... and you want to receive God's Gift of salvation for the first time
 - b. Or, need to restore Your relationship with God ... restore the Joy of your salvation:
 - (a) Bow our heads going to pray

II. Another of God's Gift to us is **The Baptism of the Holy Spirit:**

A. Have you personally received The Baptism of The Holy Spirit

1. Are you filled with The Holy Ghost?

- a. Do you pray in the Spirit / pray in tongues daily

B. Acts 1:8 "But ye shall **receive power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

1. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit releases God's power and anointing of God into your life:

a. Power over your flesh

(1) to overcome sin and ungodly habits

b. Power over the devil and powers of darkness that war against you in life

(2) God does not intend that we attempt to live this Christian life in our own strength:

(a) God wants to fill us with His power / anointing

c. Power is released into your Prayer life

(1) That edifies and builds you up Jude vs 20

(2) That eliminates the frustration of not knowing how to pray about a situation

(a) Acts 2:4 "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

C. After you are saved / Born Again, you are to receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost:

1. 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 Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

a. Note vs 38: "**The Gift of The Holy Ghost**"

(1) It was for the people in the day of the Book of Acts

(2) and it is for you and I today

(3) as well as for our children and generation to come ... tomorrow

2. When people receive the Gift of The Holy Ghost ... they always receive a heavenly prayer language ... speak in tongues]
- a. Acts 10: 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.
46 For they heard them **speak with tongues**, and magnify God.
3. The Apostle Peter was sharing a testimony with the Jewish believers in the church at Jerusalem
- a. How he was led by the Holy Spirit to minister to some Gentiles and they were Born Again and received The Gift of The Holy Ghost / received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues:
- (1) Acts 11: "And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Cæsarea unto me.
12 And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:
13 And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;
14 Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.
15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.
16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.
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?

- (a) Have you received God's Gift of The Baptism of The Holy Ghost like they had?
- (b) Are you filled with the Holy Spirit
- (c) Praying in Tongues daily
- (d) flowing in the anointing with victory over your flesh & the devil?
- (e) Baptism of Holy Spirit will take you into a deeper understanding and revelation knowledge of the Word of God

(1) Because you are Baptized in The Teacher

(A) Jn 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

(B) 1 Jn 2:27 "as the same anointing teacheth you of all things"

4. God desires to give you this free gift today by filling you with the Holy Spirit and we are going to pray with you at the close of this message to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit

III. The Third Gift God desires to give you is for you to flow in **Gifts of The Holy Spirit:**

A. The Gifts of The Holy Spirit are found in: 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

[8] For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

[9] To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

[10] To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

1. These Spiritual Gifts fall into three categories:

a. Gifts the **Say Something**:

- (1) prophecy
- (2) divers kind of tongues
- (3) interpretation of tongues

b. Gifts that **See Something**:

- (1) discerning of spirits
- (2) word of wisdom
- (3) word of knowledge

c. Gifts that **Do Something**:

- (1) healing
- (2) miracles
- (3) faith

B. Some things you need to understand about the Nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. God wants to **give you understanding** of Gifts of The Holy Spirit:

a 1Cor 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, **I would not have** you ignorant.

(1) As you study the scriptures The Holy Spirit will teach you about The Gifts

(2) In the bible you can see and learn as Jesus and the Apostles flowed in the anointing and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

(a) Thus you can see and learn what they do ... how they operate

(b) as well as how God can use you in the Gifts of The Spirit

2. You need to know that God desires to **give you spiritual gifts**. This desire of the heart of Our Heavenly Father is seen thru the Apostle Paul as seen when he wrote to the Christians in Rome:

a. Rom 1:11 For I long to see you, that I may **impart unto you some spiritual gift**, to the end ye may be established;

(1) Dwell

b. The Holy Spirit gives these spiritual gifts to every Born Again, Baptized in the Holy Spirit Believer:

(1) I Cor 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to **every man** to profit withal.

(2) 1 Cor 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, **dividing to every man** severally as he wills

3. God **never takes back** the Spiritual Gifts he imparts into your life:

a. Rom 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are **without repentance**.

(1) Amp Trans: "For God's gifts and calling are irrevocable. (He never withdraws them once they are given....)

b. That means we are to be a **good steward** of God's calling upon our life for both:

(1) salvation and ministry

(2) and the Gifts the Holy Spirit deposits within our lives

(a) 1 Peter 4:10 "As every man hath **received the gift**, even so minister the same one to another, as **good stewards** of the manifold grace of God.

(1) Every Born Again Christian will one day stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ

(a) To give an account for the life we lived

(b) as well as giving an account for the ministry we are called to

(c) and the Gifts of The Holy Spirit that God deposited within our lives

(1) Have you discovered these spiritual gifts that are imparted in your life

(2) Have you developed these manifestation of these spiritual gifts in your life and ministry

(3) Or have you remained ignorant of them or allowed them to lay dormant in your life

C. Here are **three keys** how to avoid remaining ignorant or allowing your spiritual gift to lay dormant:

DESIRE

ZEAL

STIR

1. DESIRE:

a. 1 Cor 14:1 Follow after charity, and **desire spiritual gifts**, but rather that ye may prophesy.

(1) Def Desire: to covet

(a) Spiritual Gifts are the only thing in the bible that we are told to covet

(b) This word desire / covet is a very strong word that is used to stress the importance of the need for the Born Again, Spirit Filled Believer to have Spiritual Gifts flowing thru their life and ministry

(c) The Desires really comes down to having a **SPIRITUAL HUNGER** for the things of God a hunger for flowing in the anointing and Gifts of The Holy Spirit

2. ZEAL:

a. 1 Cor 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are **zealous** of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

(1) Have you ever met someone for of zeal ... full of energy ... showing passion for something

(2) That someone should be you and I in regards to the Gifts of The Holy Spirit flowing in and through our life:

(a) In The Church

(b) In our Homes

(c) On our Jobs

(d) In the Market Place

(e) in every day life as we come in contact with people bound

by sin and the devil

- (1) ZEAL will have you laying hands on the sick
- (2) ZEAL will have you bringing the Word of The Lord into someones life who is desperate to hear from God
- (3) Zeal will never be Politically Correct, but it can be Biblically Correct and lead to God using you for His glory

3. **STIR:**

a. 2 Tim 1:6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift** of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

(1) Def stir: rekindle

b. If you are Born Again and Baptized in the Holy Ghost the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are within you

(1) Are they idle, dormant?

(2) If so **STIR UP YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

(a) IT IS NOT GOD WHO DOES THE STIRRING

(B) WE ARE TO DO THE STIRRING OF THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS DEPOSITED WITHIN US

c. **HOW TO STIR THE GIFTS:**

(1) Participate in the Praise & Worship

(a) Do the same outside of church services

(2) Pray in the Spirit ... speak in Tongues

(3) Seek the Face of God:

(a) In Prayer

(b) and in the Word

(4) Step out in faith and witness and minister to someone

(a) And you will stir up the Gifts in your life

(b) You will unwrap the Gifts the Holy Spirit has given you

IV. Lets all go to God's CHIRST - MAS TREE: THE CROSS OF JESUS

A. Do you see under that TREE / CROSS of Jesus any unwrapped Gifts from the Holy Spirit with your Name upon it?

1. The Gift of Eternal Life / Salvation
2. The Gift of the Holy Ghost / The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
3. The Nine Gifts of The Holy Spirit

B. Altar Call

1. Be it Salvation
2. Being Filled with the Holy Ghost
3. Receiving / Stirring the Gifts of The Holy Spirit
 - a. If you desire to receive God's Gift take a step of faith and come to the altar to receive from The Holy Spirit