

The First Gift

Sunday Morning, December 23, 2012

Introduction:

Several weeks ago we learned about the perfect gift to give God...to give ourselves 100% to God (The Shema).

Next we learned about the three special gifts that we could give God as a result of giving ourselves 100% to God...

- ✝ Doing Good Works
- ✝ Living Moral Lives
- ✝ Loving Church

But, Do You Know What the First Gift Given at Christmas Was?

Was It the Gold, Frankincense or Myrrh?

I. The First Gift Given At Christmas Was God's Gift to Us, His Son

(John 3:16)

“For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

II. Why Was Jesus Given/Sent to Us in Such a Lowly, Humble Condition?

If He Was in His Majestic Kingly State,
Many Would Not Relate to Him.

If He Came in His Full Godly State of Glory,
He Would Have Been Unapproachable.

Moses Stayed in the Cleft of the Rock
When God Passed By & Only Saw God's Back
(Exodus 33: 18-23)

III. Since the First Gift Given at Christmas Was God's Son...Love the Giver of the Gift of Jesus!

(Love Him More than we admire the giver of the gifts we receive from Friends and Family here on Earth)

(Ephesians 3: 14-21)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father
15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
16 I pray that He may grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power in the inner man through His Spirit,
17 and that the Messiah may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love,
18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love,
19 and to know the Messiah's love that surpasses knowledge, so you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
20 Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—
21 to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion:

Invitation - The Gospel