

"The Priceless Gift"

--John 3:16

We have access to the greatest Christmas gift that anyone could imagine.

Answering four questions about the 1st Christmas:

Who? What? Why? How?

Matthew 2:10–11 — "When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; **and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him.** Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

I. Who gave the first Christmas present?

John 3:16 — ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, **that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**"

A. God gave the first Christmas present.

1. It was not the three wise men bearing gifts as many would believe.
2. God is always the first giver - **Romans 11:35–36**

II. What was this particular gift? – "...that He gave His only begotten Son..."

A. God gave us His Son, Jesus the Savior.

1. The only begotten Son was God's greatest personal treasure that he possessed.

Isaiah 9:6 — ⁶ "For a child will be born to us, **a son will be given to us;** And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."

- a. God offers us part of Himself, His only Son.

III. But why did God give us his Son... why this gift?

A. Why not something else: _____

B. God chose to give us His Son for two reasons:

"For **God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**"

1. God gave His son because He is love.

- a. Jesus Christ is the greatest demonstration of His love.
- b. His Love places a responsibility on every child of His:
 - 1) To love as we have been loved. -**1 John 4:19–21**
 - 2) To forgive as we have been forgiven. -**Luke 11:4**

2. God gave His son because of man's greatest need – We are perishing under our sinful condition.

IV. How do we receive this priceless gift?

A. Receive Christ by trusting in Him for eternal life. --v16 "... that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. **Jn. 3:16**

1. To trust in Christ is the same as receiving eternal life:

"... God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. **12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.**" **1 Jn.5:11**

2. Some people chose NOT to receive this gift of eternal life.

- a. John 1:10
- b. John.3:19
- c. John 1:19

Decision:

1. When will we receive God's gift?
2. When will we open the gift and live under the Lordship of Christ?
3. Let us go into 2025 with the best gift in universe, eternal life through Jesus Christ the Son of God.

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