

The Greatest Gift

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All of us at CCI want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a joyful and prosperous new year in 2010. We have been much in prayer about the unfolding of God's prophetic calendar as we near the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus and all the chaos and terrible things that are beginning to come upon the earth. The Word says that times would become so difficult that "men's hearts would fail them." Much of what the Lord has shown us over the past 12 years we've not even written about because it is simply too unbelievable and scary to comprehend; however, know this, God takes care of His own. It's been the focus of our writings to encourage you to get all you can into the Ark of Jesus before the "floods" descend. Jesus Himself warned us about these times in which we are now living in Luke 21:36,

"But watch ye at every season, making supplication, that ye may prevail to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

We will have more to say about this next month because we are right on the verge of the Tribulation Period. But the Lord has instructed us to write about His birth and His desire for all human beings to dwell with Him in Heaven while these terrible judgments take place. He's going to give the world what they want – for a short period of time – a world without God! But for now we must talk about the Greatest Gift.

One of the great problems we have is dwelling upon an earth that is infested with demonic activity; there is much oppression here and is one reason why when you are taken to Heaven it is such a relief, albeit temporary until you have to return here, because you are out from under all the oppression. This oppression is increasing and it's coming from many sources that most of us had assumed cared about us, e.g., our government. However, Jesus endured this same oppression. We have a tendency to think that because He was the

Son of God that somehow He was exempt from what you and I have to go through. He was not! In 2005 the Lord gave me a revelation the week before Easter that I preached at our church in Montana (*Revelation on the Resurrection*) and it shows that Jesus had to study the Scriptures just like you and I do to find our place in God's plan. That is why when He first began His ministry after the devil's temptations He reads from the scroll of Isaiah in Synagogue the scriptures concerning Himself – He had to find those and know that they applied to Him! He had to work with the Holy Spirit and mature because as Philippians 2 points out, He laid aside all His Divine attributes of wisdom, knowledge, power, etc., when He came to earth. He was vulnerable just like you and I are to the attacks of the devil.

The greatest gift that was ever given to mankind is Jesus. Sadly, however, most people in the world don't know this because they've never studied the Bible and they don't know the Gift personally. One reason they don't know Him is because they don't possess true Wisdom which is only found in Jesus. They have worldly wisdom which is really of no value. True Wisdom as the Lord first showed me in 1997 comes from the Son (Word) and the Holy Spirit (True Understanding of the Word). This allows us to grow our spirits and become more like God as we learn to think the way He does by having our minds both cleansed and renewed by the Word of God.

But God is also very simple to understand in one word that most of the world seems to know about God – that He is **LOVE**. Yes, if we had to pick only one word to describe the Father it would be this word; however, as most of you know, there are 4 Greek words for love in the New Testament and only one of them is the God-kind of love; it is *agape*. It is love on a whole new level; an unselfish kind of love that puts the other person first. This is the type love Christians are supposed to practice as well but we don't to any great degree. This is because like Israel before us we've broken covenant with God in many areas. If you don't understand this then you should read the chapter on Covenant in *The High Calling of God*. It's important for us to shake ourselves and return to our first Love, Jesus, as we celebrate His birth once again in 2009. I hope you will allow the Spirit of the Lord so speak to you. The Lord gave Evie an interesting revelation about His birth.

We know that the angels of heaven announced His birth in **Luke 2:8** “And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. **12** And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. **13** And 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, good will toward men.”

When Jesus was given from the Father He was given in His most vulnerable state. In the womb of a woman. When Jesus was born the gift that He was helpless and extremely vulnerable just like all the millions today who are ruthlessly killed by abortion. Had there been abortion in His day there probably would have been societal pressure for Mary to have her pregnancy terminated because she risked being stoned to death and her family humiliated.

Jesus the Gift had to be nurtured and protected until He could grow to be the full manifestation of what was announced to the shepherds that wonderful day back c. 6 B.C. The most important gift ever given to mankind was not given to us the way that we wanted. We tend to want God to take care of everything for us and give us the finished result – we tend to view all the spiritual gifts God’s given us this way. But everything we receive from the Lord we receive through the eyes of faith and most of the time the gift is given in its infancy and is vulnerable. We have a responsibility to nurture it and work with the Holy Spirit to see it grow and come to pass.

From the very beginning God has established that His desire is to work with us to give us a major part in His plans for this world. Knowing this should make us realize how important it is to the plan of God not only for our lives but also for the world that we follow His direction and leading and not allow the devil to have a place in us like Judas did and even Peter for a short moment. We have to be able to look beyond small beginnings and always look through the eyes of faith to see the end result. God specifically warned Zechariah the prophet about this when He said, “Despise not the day of small beginnings.” Remember this work of the Father Himself in Jesus as an example of the Greatest Gift to the world beginning as a “small beginning.”

Just as Mary said “So be it unto me as you have spoken” when it was announced that she would birth the child of God we need to say “So be it unto me as you have spoken regarding the plan of God for my life. Mary gave her

body to be the nurturing place for the most precious gift – we need to give our bodies with the same abandon that Jesus did to be the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit so that the gifts that God has placed in us can be nurtured and brought forth.

It's incredible to see that the Father trusted His own Son – the greatest gift – to the fragility of human beings to nurture the gift of Christ until He was mature and no longer was vulnerable. Are you living the kind of life that God can have faith in you? With the situations going on in our country and around the world it is easy to lose perspective and forget that God is not done with His creation He is still working in the hearts and lives of you and I to bring about His final plans and purposes. In fact, the greatest gift has never been taken away for the Word says, “Unto us was born a savior and a King – Jesus Christ our Lord.” Will you nurture the plan of God in your life and work with the Holy Spirit like Jesus did to bring it to fruition in 2010?