

The Gift That Keeps on Giving

“For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”

Romans 6:23

Well, it's that time of year again. This week, millions of people around the world will commemorate the birth of Christ by giving gifts to others. While the thought behind exchanging gifts with family and friends may be a good one, most of the gifts people give are only material things that can only satisfy the flesh. Children will grow tired of the toys they receive and, after a few days, cast them aside. The gadgets and high-priced items that adults may receive will become outdated and depreciate in value. So, as we consider this season of giving, I want to encourage all Christians to give the gift that keeps on giving...Jesus Christ.

What better time to share the good news of Christ than now, when the world has set aside a day to recognize the birth of Christ. Most people now recognize that Jesus was not born on December 25th. So, let us not get caught up in these things, but, rather, seize this opportunity to tell people the reason why Christ was born and the gift God offers humanity through His only begotten son. If Jesus was not born, he would not have been able to carry out his mission here on earth and, he would not have been able to die the physical death required to atone for the sins of the world. Thank God for the birth of Jesus!

So, whether you celebrate Christmas or not, you can still give your family and friends (and even your enemies) the gift that keeps on giving. This week, tell someone about Jesus and the gift of salvation that God offers the whole world through him. Share a tract or “Somebody Loves You” invite card with your barber, mail carrier or stranger you encounter. Exemplify the message of Christ by helping someone in need, showing compassion or forgiveness to a family member or coworker that may have mistreated you. Make a commitment to bring someone with you to the last worship service of the year on Sunday, December 28th.

If you love them, give the gift of Christ this year.