



The Wonder Of Christmas

Part 3 - The Eternal Gifts Of Christmas

John 3:16; Acts 10:43; John 14:27; Hebrews 9:27; Romans 6:23b

Eternal Gift #1 - Forgiveness

Luke here, records the apostle Peter's testimony that of Jesus, all the prophets bore witness that through Jesus Christ, those who believe on Him will receive the forgiveness of sins.

What prophets foretold this?

- • Isaiah 53:11— “As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.
- • Jeremiah 31:34— “They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”
- • Ezekiel 36:25— “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.”

The word “Forgiveness” in Acts 10:43 means *to release one's sins from the sinner*. This required Jesus' coming as man so the sins of the world may be cast/placed upon Him. Thus He can take on the punishment of sin upon Himself.

Eternal Gift #2 - Peace

Jesus told His disciples, before His crucifixion (John 14:27):

27 “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

They would have “peace with God” (Rom. 5:1) *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,”* because their sins were forgiven and the “peace of God” (Phil. 4:7) *“And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”* would guard their lives. The world is unable to give this kind of peace.

Eternal Gift #3—Eternal Life

Everyone is going to die, physically, someday. The Bible says in Hebrews 9:27:

27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,

Everyone who has ever been conceived in his mother’s womb has eternal existence. It is up to each individual to decide just where they are going to spend it. The choice is heaven or hell.

The fact is everyone is going to spend more time on the other side of this life than is spent here. Some will live fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety and maybe even a 100 years on this side. The other side is forever.

Romans 6:23 says, “the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”