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***“GOD Gave the Greatest GIFT of All!”***

 ***Merry Christmas!***

***~ Let us receive four gifts of truth:***

## *> Truth #1 - GOD IS THE GREATEST GIFT GIVER!*

* **God gave man life in His IMAGE! *(Love, life & light!)***
* **God gave man a Garden of Eden! (“DELIGHT” – all food provided!)**
* **God gave man the animals!**
* **God gave man a WOOOOOOMAN ! (A wife!)**
* **God gave man the ability to be fruitful and MULTIPLY! (Children)**
* **God gave man a LOVING relationship!**

**(Man gave God rejection, rebellion, and sin! Man produces evil, wickedness, immorality, destruction, devastation, disease, spiritual/physical death and damnation!)**

* **God gave us prophetic promises about our SAVIOR!**
* **God gave us His ultimate love through the greatest gift of all, His Son JESUS CHRIST!**

**- John 3:16-17 - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.***

***> Truth #2 - JESUS IS GOD’S GIFT TO ALL! (Matthew 1:18-25)***

**(v18-20) Mary was found with child of whom? *The HOLY SPIRIT!***

**(v21) His name is JESUS! - Hebrew- *Jehoshua* meaning *Jehovah is salvation!* What will this precious baby Jesus save people from? *Their SINS!***

**(Isaiah 59:1-3- *Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue has muttered perversity.)***

**(v22-23) What does *Immanuel* mean? “*GOD with us!”***

***-* One author describes Jesus as:**

***The Word of God became flesh . . .***

 ***The Son of God became man . . .***

 ***The Lord of All became a servant . . .***

 ***The Righteous One was made sin . . .***

 ***The Eternal One tasted death . . .***

 ***The Risen One now lives in men . . .***

***The Seated One is coming again!***

**- Why was all this done? *To fulfill what the prophet Isaiah had spoken* (Is. 7:14)**

- **JESUS is also called:**

***Advocate (1 John 2:1);***

***Lamb of God (John 1:29);***

***The Resurrection & the Life (John 11:25);***

***Shepherd & Bishop of Souls (1 Peter 2:25);***

***Judge (Acts 10:42);***

***Lord of Lords (1 Timothy 6:15);***

***Rock (1 Corinthians 10:4);***

***Man of Sorrows (Isaiah 53:3);***

***Master (Matthew 8:19);***

***Head of the Church (Ephesians 5:23);***

***Faithful & True Witness (Revelation 3:14);***

***High Priest (Hebrews 6:20);***

***The Door (John 10:9);***

***Living Water (John 4:10);***

***Bread of Life (John 6:35);***

***Rose of Sharon (Song of Solomon 2:1);***

***Messiah (Daniel 9:25);***

***Alpha & Omega (revelation 22:13);***

***True Vine (John 15:1);***

***Teacher (John 3:2);***

***Holy One (Mark 1:24);***

***I Am (John 8:58);***

***Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5);***

***The Beloved (Ephesians 1:6);***

***Son of God (Matthew 27:54);***

***Savior (John 4:42);***

***Good Shepherd (John 10:11);***

***Branch (Isaiah 11:1);***

***Light of the World (John 8:12);***

***The Almighty (Revelation 1:8);***

***Carpenter (Mark 6:3);***

***Image of the Invisible God (Colossians 1:15);***

***The Word (John 1:1);***

***Bridegroom (Matthew 9:15);***

***Chief Cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20);***

***Servant (Matthew 12:18);***

***Author & Finisher of Our Faith (Hebrews 12:2);***

***Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6);***

***Shiloh (Genesis 49:10);***

***King of Kings (1 Timothy 6:15);***

***Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:5);***

***Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6);***

***Anchor (Hebrews 6:19);***

***Only Begotten Son (John 3:16);***

***Prophet (Matthew 21:11);***

***Wonderful Counselor (Isaiah 9:6);***

***Immanuel (Matthew 1:23);***

***Son of Man (Matthew 20:28);***

***Dayspring (Luke 1:78);***

***The Amen (Revelation 3:14);***

***King of the Jews (Mark 15:26);***

***Redeemer (Job 19:25);***

***Bright Morning Star (Revelation 22:16)***

***The Way, the Truth, & the Life (John 14:6)!***

**(v24-25) Joseph and Mary received the greatest gift of all, Jesus *“their firstborn Son!”***

***> Truth #3 – OBSERVE THREE GIFTS FOR THE SAVIOR! (Matthew 2:1-15)***

***- Gold* - was for royalty, an appropriate gift for the *King of kings*.**

***- Frankincense* – A gift for a priest since the priests offered it in the Temple. Frankincense was part of the sacred anointing oil (Exodus 30:34). It was used in sacrificial offering (Leviticus 2:1), as a fumigant during animal sacrifices (Exodus 30:7), and as perfume (Song of Solomon 3:6). It was a gift to baby Jesus (Matthew 2:11). So, it was a fitting present to give Him who would be the great *High Priest*.**

***- Myrrh* - was the gift for one who would die. It was used for embalming. And so, it was particularly appropriate for the *Son of God*, who came to die on the cross for our sins.**

**- These three gifts foretold that JESUS, THE SON OF GOD was to be the true KING, the perfect HIGH PRIEST, and the SAVIOR of mankind!**

***> Truth #4 - JESUS IS THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!***

**- To the hurting Jesus gives the gift of HEALING! – Matthew 15:30-31**

**- To the captive Jesus gives the gift of FREEDOM! – Luke 8:26-37 (Legion)**

**- To the anxious Jesus gives the gift of PEACE! – John 14:27 (407 times)**

**- To the guilty Jesus gives the gift of MERCY! – Luke 18:9-14**

**- To the sinful Jesus gives the gift of FORGIVENESS! – Luke 7:36-50**

**- To the unsaved Jesus gives the gift of SALVATION! – Luke 19:1-10**

**- To the hell bound Jesus gives the gift of HEAVEN! – Luke 10:18-20**

**- To the homeless Jesus gives the gift of many MANSIONS! – John 14:1-3**

**- To the condemned Jesus gives the gift of ETERNAL LIFE! – John 17:1-3**

**- To the powerless Jesus gives the gift of the HOLY SPIRIT! – Acts 1:8**

**- To the forsaken Jesus gives the gift of MARRIAGE! – Revelation 19:9**

**- To the futureless Jesus give the gift of a city of GOLD FOREVER! – Revelation 21:9-27**

***- For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.* (Ephesians 2:8-9)**

**- *Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!* (2 Corinthians 9:15)**

 ***MERRY CHRISTMAS!***