

# *The Gift of Gifts*

Each day, the news reminds us that we live in a world where violence, sorrow, and uncertainty confront us. This evening, we want to consider with you what the Bible describes as “good news,” the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The angel of the Lord announced to the Bethlehem shepherds “good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” This good news tells us that God sent His Son because of His deep interest in our eternal security, safety, and well-being.

That April day at Calvary, when Christ died for our sins, was the real “Black Friday,” the day when the greatest benefit and the greatest “savings” possible were secured. As a result of the Savior’s death and resurrection, God is able to righteously forgive, save, and bless each person who trusts the Lord Jesus. His Gospel offers us *rest* in the midst of life’s storms, *hope* amid the darkness, *life* in a world of death, and *certainty* instead of fear.

We could wish no greater blessing for you and your family than the blessing of a personal, spiritual relationship with God through the Lord Jesus. That will result in your having not only a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, but a joyous life and eternal bliss.

*“He that believes on the Son has everlasting life”  
(John 3:36).*

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life”  
(John 3:16).



# *The Gift of God*

## WHAT HE GAVE FOR US

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King and Peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently **the wondrous gift is given!**  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray.  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

## WHAT WE GAVE HIM

“They **gave** Me also **gall** for My meat; and in My thirst they **gave** Me **vinegar** to drink” (Psa 69:21).

“And when they had platted a **crown of thorns**, they **put** it upon His head, and a **reed** in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they **spit** upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head” (Mat 27:29, 30).

“And they took Jesus, and led Him away.  
And He bearing **His** cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha”  
(John 19:16, 17).

“And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, they **gave** Him **vinegar** to drink mingled with **gall**: and when He had tasted thereof, He would not drink.  
And they **crucified** Him” (Mat 27:33-35).

“I gave **My back** to the smiters, and **My cheeks** to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not **My face** from shame and spitting” (Isa 50:6).

“The Son of God ... loved me, and gave **Himself** for me”  
(Gal 2:20).

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave **Himself** for it” (Eph 5:25).

“The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give **His life** a ransom for many”  
(Mat 20:28).

## WHAT HE OFFERS TO US

“Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will **give** you rest” (Mat 11:28).

“To **give** knowledge of salvation unto His people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us, to **give** light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:77-79).

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: And I **give** unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any one pluck them out of My hand” (John 10:27, 28).

Jesus said, “If thou knewest the **gift** of God, and Who it is that saith to thee, ‘Give Me to drink’; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have **given** thee living water” (John 4:10).

“For the wages of sin is death; but the **gift** of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom 6:23).