

## The Greatest Gift

Christmas is a time of traditions. Many things that we do today are done because someone started this many years ago and we continue this tradition today. The Christmas tree is one of these as are the many celebrations and feasts throughout the Christmas season.

Christmas gifts are also a tradition. We gather together with our friends and loved ones and share gifts. While it's certainly true that today's commercialization of Christmas has taken much of the original reason away, gift giving still demonstrates our love for one another. One could say that the gift giving tradition began with the wise men, who brought their gifts to the manger some 2,000 years ago. These were not your everyday gifts from the local Wal-Mart either. They were Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh. These were highly symbolic gifts of great value.

However, the original gift of Christmas has it's roots back to the beginning of man. After Adam's fall into sin God had purposed in His heart a plan of redemption for all mankind. When the time was right He sent His only begotten Son to come down from the heavenly throne and be born a man. To be borne in a manger, endure the hardships of life as a man, and finally to die on the cross. He sent His son to die for us, that we might live and have eternal life. Can any of us imagine sending our own son to die so that another might live? I hardly think so. Yet God sent His son to do this for us. This truly was the greatest gift of all and was given out of God's love for us.

Each Christmas season as we get a little more wrapped up in the business of the season we tend to forget what the true meaning of Christmas is about. Yet, were it not for a loving God's gift to this world, we would not even have a Christmas holiday. We need to make sure that we do not make Jesus a small part of our Christmas celebrations. God's loving gift to a sinful world is held out to all who will accept Him and let Him truly be the Lord of their life. This Christmas receive the greatest gift of all by welcoming Him into your heart and receive God's love, joy, and peace. These gifts are something you won't find anywhere else, at any price.

We wish you a joyous and blessed Holiday Season

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