



## God's Christmas Gifts to Us and Our Christmas Gifts to Him By Karen Sue Nyquist



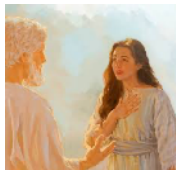
1. **At Christmas time we usually give gifts to each other, but did you know that God gave the first Christmas gifts?**

2. **Three of God's Christmas gifts are explained in one verse.** - "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him (*His Son*) should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) **What were these gifts? His love, His Son, and everlasting life.**

3. **God's fourth Christmas gift is forgiveness for our sins.** - "All the prophets testify about Him (*Jesus*) that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name." (Acts 10:43) Sins are breaking God's laws.

4. **God's fifth Christmas gift is a place in heaven for you.** - Jesus said, "In My Father's house (*in heaven*) are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also." (John 14:2-3)

5. **Who does God offer His gifts to? - God offers His gifts to those who are poor.** - Mary and Joseph were so poor they could not give the regular offering of a lamb, so they gave either two turtledoves or two pigeons. God showed them His love by allowing them to be the earthly parents of His Son. "...God sent the angel



Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you... You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High... The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God ... "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her." (Luke

1:26-38) **What gifts did Mary give God? She gave Him her trust and her willingness to accept His will for her life.**



6. **God offers His gifts to those who are rejected.** During that time, shepherds were considered social outcasts. God showed them His love by telling them first of His Son's birth. He even used angels! How loved do you think they felt after that! "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David (*Bethlehem*) a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a Baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger... So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and



the Baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child,” (Luke 2:8-12, 16-17)

**What gifts did they give God? The shepherds gave God the gifts of acting on His Word and of telling others.**



**7. God offers His gifts to those who are rich and powerful.** - The Magi were rich and powerful, often advising kings, but they did not even know the true God. They probably followed the Zoroastrianism religion and came from Persia, Babylon, or an Arab nation. God showed them His love by calling them, using His written prophecies and a special “star.” They were wise enough to seek God when He called them. “When they (*the magi from the East*) saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the Child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:10-11)



**What gifts did they give God? The wisemen gave Him their desire to seek Him, their worship, and some of their possessions.**



**8. God offers His gifts to everyone!** - “This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:3-4)

**9. Why do we need God’s gifts?**

- a. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23) Sin means to do wrong, to break God’s laws. Example: The 10 Commandments – (Ex. 20:2-17)
- b. “For the wages of sin is death,” (Romans 6:23)
- c. “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him (*Jesus*) is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” (John 3:17-18)

**10. How do we receive God’s gifts?**

- a. Believe that Jesus is God’s Son. (Romans 10:9)
- b. Repent of our sins. (Acts 2:38)
- c. Ask for forgiveness. (Matthew 6:12)
- d. Ask Jesus to be our Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9)



**11. Here is a suggested prayer:** “Lord Jesus, I know I have done wrong. Forgive me for all my sins, and cleanse me. I repent from my wrong ways. Help me be the kind of person You want me to be. I will love You and serve You. Right now, Lord Jesus, I receive You as my personal Lord and Savior. AMEN!”

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**You just gave God the best Christmas gift ever, You gave Him yourself!**

**Merry Christmas! – NationTakers Ministries**

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