THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL

Galatians 4:4-5; 2 Corinthians 9:15

Introduction: This is the season of giving gifts to one another. Usually there are three things that are associated with each gift - the giver, the gift, the response of the one receiving the gift. Since God has given us the greatest gift we can ever receive, let's consider these three things in relationship with God's gift.

I. CONSIDER THE GIVER - GOD (The source of all things)

- 1. "WHO" is giving the gift is important to the receiver is the giver rich, poor, etc.
- 2. Then consider the giver's ability to give, the wisdom in selecting the gift, and then the reason for giving the gift.
- 3. So, consider God as the giver:
 - God's ability is limitless He created all things, owns all things, is over all things.
 - God's wisdom He has total wisdom, knowledge in all things and certainly knows what is best.
 - -God's reason for giving He loves everyone and giving is natural to Him.

II. CONSIDER GOD'S GIFT - (What could God give us?)

- 1. In considering the gift what is the:
 - cost?
 - practical value?
 - lasting qualities?
- 2. God's gift is priceless. What price for His Son's life? What does eternalness cost? What does a new, perfect body cost?
- 3. Of what practical (everyday) value is God's gift?
 - It saves one from the penalty of sin (death).
 - It saves one from condemnation (hell, separation).
 - It saves one from bondage of sin (its hold is broken).
 - It justifies one and brings total acceptance by God.
 - It brings peace with God.
- 4. God's gift lasts FOREVER. It has a lifetime guarantee to the owner of the gift.

III. CONSIDER THE RESPONSE OF THE RECEIVER

- 1. Some who receive God's gift are thankless.
 - They have no feeling of gratitude.
 - They blame the Giver.
 - They forget the gift after a while.

- 2. Some think God will take back His gift:
 - If they misbehave, etc.
 - God's gift is not permanent.
- 3. Some are constantly grateful to God for His gift:
 - They are mindful, appreciative and tell Him so often.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Consider this thought: the wealthiest, greatest, most thoughtful, most considerate person in the whole world sends someone a priceless gift. Then that someone shuns the gift, ignores it, even refuses to accept it. What kind of person would do that?
 - Well, that happens every day with God.
- 2. The greatest gift ever offered is from God and is for everyone.
- 3. What have YOU done about God's great gift?