JOHN E BROWN 12/19/21

THE INCREDIBLE GIFT EXCHANGE

2 Corinthians 5:21 Isaiah 53:1-12 I Peter 2:24 Isaiah 61:1-4

Jesus Christ was born into this world, not from it. – **Oswald Chambers**

The son of God became man to enable men to become sons of God. – **C.S. Lewis**

No matter how badly we have failed, we can always get up and begin again. Our God is the God of new beginnings. – Warren Wiersbe

Whoever you are, whatever your condition or circumstance, whatever your past or problem, Jesus can restore you to wholeness. – Anne Graham Lotz

The stunning point of Christmas is that God considered my needs and the worth of my relationship to Him to be sufficient cause to go through the trauma of changing places. – Joe Stowell Jesus stooped into an actual identification with human nature, and, by that stoop, lifted human nature into the spaciousness of fellowship with Gold. – **G. Campbell Morgan**

All the power of God-the same power that hung the stars in place and put the planets in their cou4rses and transformed Earth-now resides in you to energize and strengthen you to become the person God created you to be. – Anne Graham Lotz

This is Christmas, the real meaning of it: God loving, searching, giving Himself to us; man needing, receiving, giving himself to God. Redemption's glorious exchange of gifts, without which we cannot live, without which we cannot give to those we love anything of lasting value. This is the meaning of Christmas, the wonder and the glory of it. – **Ruth Bell Graham**

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. **2 Corinthians 5:21 NASB**

• The cross of Calvary was a 'Divine Exchange' pre-established by God Himself. All the evil within us fell upon Jesus so that all the good in Him could be placed in us.

Our sins are laid upon Christ Jesus and His righteousness is laid on us...this is the great exchange, and it becomes ours not by works but by faith. – John Piper The Gospel announces a Great Exchange: the innocent God-man assuming our debt as we inherit His righteousness. – **Anon**

1Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 2For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. 3He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried, yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being *fell* upon

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Him, and by His scourging we are healed. 6All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. Isaiah 53:1-6 NASB

11As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see *it and* be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. 12Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors. **Isaiah 53:11-12 NASB**

And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds, you were healed. I Peter 2:24 NASB

• This gift of the Great Exchange was given to us by what Jesus accomplished on the cross.

1The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; 2To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn,3To grant those who mourn *in* Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified. 4Then they will rebuild the ancient ruins, they will raise up the former devastations; and they will repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations. **Isaiah 61:1-4 NASB**

- Look at their 'Exchanges'.
- Our sin for His Son.
- His Good News for our affliction.
- Our brokenness for His healing.
- Our captivity for real liberty.
- Our bondage for His freedom.
- Our misfortune for His favor.
- Our morning for His comfort and gladness.
- Our ashes and sorrows for His garlands.
- Our 'heaviness' for a mantle of praise.
- Our shame for His glory.

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Exchange of the Cross

The simplest way to receive all that Jesus Christ has done for you on the cross is to take the gift of salvation and to thank Him for it through the confession of your mouth. "...and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. "Romans **10:10** (Adapted from Derek Prince's book entitled: Bought with Blood: the Divine Exchange of the Cross)

 Jesus was punished and made sin with your sinfulness so that you might be forgiven and made righteous. (Isiah 53:4-5; 53:10; 61:10 and II Corinthians 5:21)
 Exchange: Give Jesus your sins and take the forgiveness and righteousness He is offering you.

Say: Thank You Jesus that You have forgiven me and made me righteous, justified "just as if I have" never sinned.

- Jesus was wounded that you might be healed. (Isaiah 43:4-5; I Peter 2:24)
 Exchange: Give Jesus your sickness and take the healing He is offering you.
 Say: Thank You Jesus that You have healed me.
- 3. Jesus was made a curse and died your death that you might receive the blessing and share in the life of Christ. (Galatians 3:13-14; Ephesians 1:3; Hebrews 2:9) Exchange: Give Jesus any area where you are living under the curse, under death, and take the blessing, the life in Christ Jesus, He is offering you. Say: Thank You Jesus that you have redeemed me from the curse, from death, and have

blessed me with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Jesus endured your poverty that you might share His abundance. (II Corinthians 8:9; 9:8)

Exchange: Give Jesus your poverty, your lack, and take the abundance. Say: Thank You Jesus that You have given me Your abundance.

5. Jesus bore your shame that you might share His glory. (Matthew 27:35-36; Hebrews 12:2, 2:9)

Exchange: Give Jesus your shame, your disgrace, and take the honor and glory He is offering you.

Say: Thank You Jesus that You have bore my shame and released me from it, allowing me to share in Your honor and glory in this life and in the next.

 Jesus endured your rejection that you might enjoy His acceptance. (Matthew 27:46-51; Ephesians 1:5-6)

Exchange: Give Jesus your rejection and take the acceptance He is offering to you. *Say: Thank You for being my Father and for accepting me into your family.*

 Jesus was cut off by death that you might be joined to God eternally. (Isaiah 53:8; I Corinthians 6:17)

Exchange: Give to Jesus the things that are separating you from Him and take the oneness that He is offering you.

Say: Thank you Jesus that You allow nothing to separate me from You, having joined me to You eternally.

8. Your old man died in Jesus that Christ might live in you. (**Romans 6:6; Colossians 3:9-10**) Exchange: Give to Jesus your old man and take, put on, the new man in Christ Jesus. Say: Thank You that You have made me a new creation.

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He takes our broken, sinful, and separated lives and gives us His forgiveness, His love, His righteousness, and His peace. He takes our frail, fallen, mortal, and transitory lives, breaks every curse over us and redeems us spirit, soul, and body. He takes our selfcentered indulgent existence and gives us life together forever with Him forever more.

He takes our fear, rejection, and all our wayward wanderings and transforms us into people who are loved, accepted and empowered to live a purposeful life with a kingdom destiny and an eternal destination.

"To the believer in Jesus Christ it means that the sovereignty of Satan over his life is ended and the sovereignty of God begins; that he leaves the sphere of sin, death, darkness and disorder, and enters the sphere of righteousness, life light and liberty; that he ceases to be a subject in the kingdom of Satan and becomes a subject in the Kingdom of God; that he severs his alliance with Satan's system, the world and avows his allegiance as a member of Christ's Body the Church, to Christ Himself who is its Head. It means, in other words, that the old creation with all that pertains to it ends at the cross and is buried in the tomb and that a new creation comes forth in the resurrection. It means that the old relationship with sin, self and Satan is altogether annulled and a new union with God in Christ Jesus is made, and that in this new relationship Christ becomes not only the believer's Savior but his Lord and his Life." – **Ruth Paxson**

What a gift! What an Exchange! What a Savior!