

THE LARGEST GIFT LIST OF ALL

John 3:16-17; Isaiah 9:6-7

God can take any man and put the miracle of His joy into him. – **Oswald Chambers**

Christmas means the beginning of Christianity – and a second chance for the world. – **Peter Marshall**

Jesus – the standard of measurement, the scale of weights, the test of character for the whole moral universe. – **R. G. Lee**

He loved us not because we're lovable, but because He is love. – **C.S. Lewis**

The Christmas message is that there is hope for humanity, hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory. – **J.I. Packer**

The Gospel is not so much a demand as it is an offer, an offer of new life to man by the grace of God. – **E. Stanley Jones**

Christmas is the day that holds all time together. – **Alexander Smith**

16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. **John 3:16-17 NASB**

6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. **Romans 5:6-9 NASB**

Made Alive in Christ

1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. 3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together Christ (by grace you have been saved). **Ephesians 2:1-5 NASB**

God loves the world and everyone in it! And that makes for a very large 'gift list'!

- The current population of the USA is just over 333,000,000 people.
- The KC Metro area is roughly 1.7 million people.
- The current population is 7.9 billion people...today (and everyday there will be 375,000 babies born in this world of ours.
- The population of the world in Jesus' day was about 250 million people.
- In 1800, world population reached one billion people.

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- In 1930, the population of the world reached two billion people (130 years to get to two billion).
- By 1974, the world population had doubled to four billion...in forty four years.
- In 2011, the world population reached seven billion...three billion added in only 37 years.

In 2023, we will reach a world population of over eight billion...a billion added in just twelve years...

God loves every person in the whole world and He sent Jesus with real forgiveness and true love for everyone...this 'gift list' just keeps growing!

So, here we are tonight living among 7.9 billion other people...if you aren't careful you could feel a bit 'insignificant' ...but God knows our hearts and knows exactly what we need.

6For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

7There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this. **Isaiah 9:6-7 NASB**

Conception and Birth of Jesus

18Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. 19And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. 20But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." 22Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23"BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." **Matthew 1:18-23 NASB**

O LORD, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; for You have worked wonders, plans *formed* long ago, with perfect faithfulness. **Isaiah 25:1 NASB**

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¹First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **I Timothy 2:1-4 NASB**

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. **2 Peter 3:9 NASB**

Jesus came into the world so we could know, once and for all, that God is concerned about the way we live, the way we believe, and the way we die. – **Billy Graham**

Jesus is the personal approach from the unseen God coming so near that he becomes inescapable. You don't have to find him – you just have to consent to be found. – **E. Stanley Jones**