

The Gift of Jesus Christ Romans 5:16

Summary of Today's Message

The gold, frankincense, and myrrh presented by the magi were gifts from men to Jesus, but Jesus—the greatest gift ever given—is God's gift to man.

The Gift of Jesus Christ Romans 5:16

In this Christmas message, we will learn what it means to receive the gift of Jesus Christ as we review the meaning behind the wise men's presents and see how the apostle Paul compared Adam and Jesus.

Introduction

Gold: emblematic of Jesus coming to be the King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Matthew 2:2

A metal fit for a king

Introduction

Frankincense: emblematic of the <u>Priesthood</u> and Jesus as our Great High Priest

Myrrh: symbolic of what Jesus would do in His Sacrificial death for us

We considered the gifts; now we'll consider the gift

The gifts the wise men gave verses the gift that God gave

*The gold, frankincense, and myrrh were gifts given by men to Christ; the one gift that Paul wrote about here is a gift given by Christ to men

*The three gifts were given when Jesus was a child, but they symbolized His future; the one gift was given when Jesus was a man and is central to our future

*The three gifts were monetary, physical, and valued only on this earth; the one gift is a monumental, revolutionary, spiritual gift valuable in the court of heaven in eternity

*The three gifts were costly, but didn't cost the wise men everything; the one gift cost Jesus everything

1. The gift means we are Loved

If you're ever tempted to doubt God's love, remember this gift

1 John 4:8

It's hard to grasp that God loves you

1 John 3:1

Human love is <u>object</u>-oriented; God's love is <u>subject</u>-oriented

When we see something we like, we place value on it God's love is based on His character

2.The gift means we can be forgiven
Sin always overpromises; it doesn't completely satisfy
Romans 6:23

Death is separatioon

3. The gift means we can <u>live</u> <u>forever</u>

4. The gift has to be received

Any gift has to be received, opened, used, tried on—or it's of no value

John 1:11-12

You can receive what you need: <u>love</u>, <u>forgiveness</u>, and <u>life</u>

But in order to get all of those things, you have to receive the gift

If you do that, it's a <u>package</u> deal, and it has great benefits now and forever

If you haven't yet, take the gift; it'll be the best Christmas gift you've ever had