SERMON TITLE: THE GIFT OF GOD

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SERMON SERIES: CHRISTMAS

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SUMMARY: A child is born onto us. Onto us a Son is given - The man, Christ Jesus, Emmanuel (God with us). The Holy Spirit is calling you back. Receive the Gift of God, the Gift of Grace. God, made flesh, came to us, not because of what we did, but because of his Grace! Christmas is about receiving the Gift of God, The Gift of Jesus - love, peace, hope, freedom, eternal life, abundant life, salvation, and a new start!

Will you receive the GIFT?

Take the opportunity to create special moments at Christmas!

Key Bible Verses: Isaiah 9:6-7; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 5

The Awe of Christmas ((kids playing with boxes/wrappings instead of gifts, naps)
The AWE of Family (traditions – creating special moments)
The ILLUSION of Christmas (talking snowman, flying reindeers, Santa Claus)
The True "AWE" of Christmas -The True Gift – The Eternal Gift - The Gift of Jesus

Supernatural Things at Christmas

- 1. Supernatural Foretelling
- 2. Supernatural Leading
- 3. Supernatural Favor
- 4. Supernatural Signs
- 5. Supernatural Protection
- 6. Supernatural Provision
- 7. Supernatural Presence of Jesus The Gift The Person of Jesus, our Lord.

The Theology of Santa

• If you're "NOT good," your name will get on the "naughty list", and you won't get a present at Christmas....NO GIFT

The Theology of Christmas

 We are ALL Naughty! We should get no presents and have no tree or fun. But God gave you His perfect Son as the greatest gift of love, peace, and joy, with eternal and abundant life. Moralism – you've got to be good to get the Gift. Which is opposite of the theology of a Believer – "we are all naughty" (Romans 3:23)

The true Theology of Christmas – Eternal Gift – True Gift of Jesus

- Believing and receiving the Gift of God, leads to repentance. This Gift is to be received by "all." "Onto us" because we are all "sinful."
- Onto Us a Child is Born Speaking of Christ's Humanity

John 1:14 – So, the Word became Human and made His home among us.

• Onto us a Son is Given – Speaking of Christ's Divinity

John 3:16 - ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- If He was not 100% the son of man, he could not stand in substitution on the cross.
- If he was not 100% the son of God, the sacrifice for our sin would be insufficient.

Ephesians 2 ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Questions:

#1 How is your heart at this time of the year? What are your favorites Christmas memories?

#2 As you as you reflect on His calling on your life in 2025, what does receiving the GIFT of God mean for you?

#3 What actions are you sensing the Holy Spirit is asking you to take, as you gather with family and friends, this Christmas season?

#4 What is the Holy Spirit "calling you back to" in 2025?

Prayers: pray for each other – special prayer requests