



Many of us, just two short weeks ago, found ourselves receiving a gift. Some received a gift which was just that, a gift, no strings attached. Some rushed out to purchase a gift for a planned exchange. Others rushed to buy a gift to return the favor of someone who had been thoughtful. Some received a gift, but could not wait to return it in order to get “what they really wanted”. Still others received gift cards which were swapped for the store of their preference.

A gift; a thing given willingly to someone without repayment. To reject a gift could be thought of as being ungrateful. To receive a gift with ill intentions such as a selfish exchange is self-centered. To receive a gift, and then ask to do something in an act of repayment makes the gift earned and not given.

Leading up to the Christmas holiday, maybe you heard this verse in a song, a reading, or was seen upon a Christmas card.

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given”

Given as a gift. Living a life demonstrated by selfless acts of generosity. Laying down His life as a sacrificial gift. Being brought back to life, He conquered death and is able to give to us freely, willingly, the gift of eternal life. A gift, not to be rejected, not to be exchanged, and certainly nothing need be done to earn it.

Such is the gift of salvation. Something willingly given without repayment. Given not earned. Nothing need done except receiving. Given graciously. No task required to earn it. It is by grace through faith, a gentle grace. It is a gift from a gracious God.
A gift.