The "Gift"

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At Christmas we celebrate the demonstration of God's love by giving unto mankind the greatest gift ever. God gave His son JESUS CHRIST – the WORD becoming flesh, to dwell among us. In this reading we will examine the nature and the qualities of this precious gift. CHRIST'MAS ("Christ's Mass," or "Festival") is the annual festival held by Christians in memory of the birth of Christ. It begins in the evening of December 24 (called Christmas Eve) and continues until Epiphany (January 6) – a feast to celebrate the baptism of Christ as found in *Matt. 3:16-17*, the whole period being called Christmastide. It is more particularly observed on December 25, called Christmas Day, or simply Christmas.

THE GIFT OF JESUS:

Reflects an act of love

There is no greater love than this – for God to release His son to us. All we need to do is accept Him as our Lord and Savior, we shall be saved (John 3:16). More so, it is not only the Father who loves us but the Son equally loves us. Romans 5:8 affirms "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." *NIV*

Lasts forever

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The Bible refers to Him as the 'Everlasting Father'. As often as you see the Gift, call Him, touch Him or commune with Him, you have confidence that He is always there for you. Most gifts may not last, but Jesus is everlasting. Not only does He live forever, He also reigns forever (Isaiah 9:6 & Psalm 145:13). Jesus is on duty 24/7 to make things work out for you. He is not enclosed in a gift box that could be thrown away. He is everywhere, all the time.

Relates to my humanity

Just like you, Jesus was born of a woman, born under the law – to feel what and how you feel; to eat as you do; hated as you are; loved as you are; work as you do; etc. (Galatians 4:4). Knowing that He also came in form of a human being helps us to know that He knows the expressions of our pains. But since He is God, He can remove each and every pain.

Is a gift of Light and Hope

Job 29:3 says, "His lamp shone over my head, and by his light I walked through darkness." Christ's birth represents the presence of LIGHT in the world; which removes the power of darkness from people's lives (*John 8:12*). Light brings joy. Jesus is the light that darkness cannot comprehend (*John 1:4-5*). His birth makes it possible for the human race to have the badly needed lamb that is required to be sacrificed for the sins of mankind *ohn 1:29*

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Brings Blessings

Psalm 72:17 says, "All nations will be blessed through Him, and they will call Him blessed."

Shows the WAY, TRUTH, & LIFE (all-in-one)

Through the WAY we have access to God *Rom. 5:2*. We are now able to reach God. The gap is now bridged

John 14:6. By having the

TRUTH we become free from the lies and devices of the devil. Glory be to God, by having LIFE, death has no power over us

John 1:4

. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim 1:17

NIV

If I may ask, do you mean even if I do not have all the things I want, I can still rejoice everyday? I pray that the birth of Jesus will not go in vain over your life.

Please make room for Christmas – the birth of Christ into your life. At the inn there was no room for Him (Luke 2:7) but you must make room for Him today. It's a big relief to know that someone could save mankind from the dangers, chaos, and evils of this world. Even from the distractions that sins bring, He saves us. His name is Jesus. Does his birth mean anything to you? He was born that you may have life abundantly. Have you also been born into his abundant life? Without being born again into a new life in Jesus, you cannot understand what Christmas is. If you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior today, everyday will become Christmas for you.

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Pastor Abraham Obadare is a minister of the gospel at CAC-WOSEM (The Home of Soul-Winners), 108-02 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435. He can be reached at 718-658-8981. See www.wosem.org for more details.