**3 GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS**

December 11, 2016

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1. **God gave us the gift of forgiveness.**

 *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sin.*

 Eph.2:1

*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.* Eph 2:8-9

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

 Romans 5:8

1. **God gave us the gift of reconciliation.**

*Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

 2 Cor. 5:16-19

1. **God gave us the gift of hope.**

*And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. 25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.*

 Luke 2:25 29

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.* Jeremiah 29:11

**Final Thought**

*He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?* Romans 8:32