

- Church Web Site

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A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- Since the Christmas season began, one word has fallen from our lips more than any other.
 - Maybe you haven't stopped to think about which word that might be.
- I don't think it's the word joy or carol or Christmas tree.
 - I think it's the word gift.

- What term would you use to describe the **greatest**, most wonderful gift you have ever received?
 - **The Apostle Paul** had that opportunity to describe **God's greatest gift** to mankind.
 - And how did he **describe that gift?**

- Here was a brilliant man.
 - Master of the Greek language.
 - An able capable communicator.
 - And yet he pauses when he comes to this simple four-letter word "gift"
- How is he going to describe it?

- That description is found in

2 Corinthians 9:15.

- **"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"**

(ISV)

- How else would you describe it?

- Paul chooses a term that is used **nowhere else** in all of Scripture.
- **Why** is it indescribable?
 - **Why** is this gift too awesome for words?
 - After all, **it's just a baby.**

- If this had been an ordinary conception

- If he had been an ordinary infant,

- There would have been nothing indescribable about him.

- Just another baby.

- Because

- he was neither.

- There was only

- one word

- “indescribable” .

- **Luke 2:7**

***And she brought forth
her firstborn son,
and wrapped him in
swaddling clothes,
and laid him in a manger;
because there was
no room
for them in the inn.***

- Here they were in a stable:
- Surrounded by a few animals.
- With muck and mire for carpet.
- And for the first time in all of time
- Mary looks at God face to face!

- Standing nearby
was a bewildered man
who had nothing to do
with the conception.

- How did Joseph
put it all together?

- He had simply
believed

the word of the angel:

- **Matthew 1:20**

Behold, the angel of the Lord

- **appeared unto him
in a dream, saying,**

- **Joseph, thou son of David,**

- **fear not to take unto thee
Mary thy wife:**

- **for that which is conceived in her**

- **is of the Holy Ghost.**

- **And he did.**
- A simple-minded **carpenter.**
- Simple enough to believe the word of an **angel.**
- Probably standing **in amazement.**
- **Mary** gave birth.
- Wrapped him in **swaddling clothes.**
- And placed him **in a manger.**

- Mary

wrapped Him

in swaddling clothes.

- But how did God

wrap His

indescribable gift?

- First

God

wrapped him

in prophecy.

- God didn't just drop Jesus out of the sky.
 - He spent about 4,000 years to prepare mankind for that event.
 - Listen to a few prophecies..

- Isaiah 7:14

*Therefore the Lord himself
shall give you a sign;*

- *Behold, a virgin shall conceive,
and bear a son,*
- *and shall call his name Immanuel*
 - You wrap something
indescribable
in something as powerful
as prophecy.

- **Isaiah 9:6:**

For unto us a child is born,

- **unto us a son is given:**
- **and the government shall be upon his shoulder:**
- **and his name shall be called:**
 - **Wonderful, Counsellor,**
 - **The mighty God,**
 - **The everlasting Father,**
 - **The Prince of Peace.**

- Isaiah 53

describes him for us:

- He will grow up like a root out of dry ground;

- No beauty

that we should desire him.

- But, that isn't what made Jesus Christ significant.

- He looked like **any other Jew.**
- As a boy he looked like any other **carpenter's son.**
- His appearance had **nothing majestic** about it.

- There was no shining glow about him.
- He was God who came in the form of a man,
- Not man in the form of God.

- He drove a nail just like anyone else.
- He worked with wood like anyone else.
- He was just like any other man from outward appearance.

- So why was He despised and forsaken,

- A man of sorrows

- And acquainted with grief.

- Why was He not esteem?

- **Isaiah 55:8**

***For my thoughts
are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways
my ways,
saith the LORD.***

- He was wrapped
as an
indescribable gift.
- Wrapped in
prophecy.

- God also wrapped baby Jesus in history.
- And that's God's job, and he is a master at it.

- He is sovereign ruler over time and history.

- And so He weaved the two together.

- So that it dovetails right into prophecy.

- **Galatians 4:4**

"When the fullness of the time came,

- God sent forth

- His Son,**

- Born of

- a woman,**

- Born under

- the Law.**

- Now study the words "*fullness of the time*".

- Meaning exactly on schedule,

- Precisely as God scheduled it.

- When all of history fell in line.

- When all of the things perfectly fitted together.
 - God wrapped His gift in History.
 - Just the right man with no conscience to betray Jesus.
 - Just the right king to crucify him.
 - Just the right mob to cry “**Crucify Him**”.

- At just the right time
in history.
- The right government.
 - The right people.
 - The right politics.
 - The right
social environment.

- Some people have the idea that Jesus was a remedial action,
 - A last-minute Band-Aid stuck on a wounded world;
- God had tried everything else, so he decided to try his son.

- The Bible says Jesus came in the fullness of time and everything was fully prepared for him.
 - All the pieces of history came together.
 - God's preparation was staggering.
 - You wrap an indescribable gift in history
 - And you bring him at just the right time.

- The baby Jesus comes wrapped in mystery.
 - You can't leave out the mystery.
 - If you took away the mystery there's nothing indescribable about him.

- That's the mystery of it all.
- The Father God, the Son, the Spirit,
 - Co-eternal,
 - Co-existent,
 - Co-equal,
 - Came to this indescribable decision.³⁵

- ***"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,"***
(John 1:14)
- **God became man.**
 - No less deity.
 - No less humanity
in one body.
 - That is a mystery.

- Strangely wrapped:
 - In history,
 - In prophecy,
 - In mystery.

- Something this **awesome,**
- Something this **stupendous.**
- Had to have some kind of **heavenly ad campaign** to make it right.
 - Some kind of **magnificent announcement** for this **indescribable event.**

- When God decide to make it known,
 - He chose a few shepherds.
- Never once are they named.

- A bunch of no-account shepherds

- Because we are no-account people that Jesus came to save.

- Just some shepherds out in the field watching their flocks that night.

• **Luke 2:8**

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

2:9 *And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:
and they were sore afraid.*

- **Luke 2:10**

And the angel said unto them,

- ***Fear not: for, behold,***

- I bring you good tidings
of great joy,

- which shall be to all people.

- **2:11** For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Savior,
which is Christ the Lord.

- Try to picture it.

- Verse 9:

"*and they were terribly afraid*"

- As you and I
would have been also.

- And I've always been amazed
at this verse.

- "The angel said to them,
'*Do not be afraid.*' "

- In the middle of the night when all should be quiet
suddenly:
- The angel appears and says,
 - "**Don't be afraid**;
I bring you news from God."
 - What in the world is he
going to say?
 - **Watch what he says:**

- ***It's "good news***
of a great joy
which shall be
for all the people.
- Today, in the city of David,
a Savior is born
- Who is Christ the Lord.”

- This is how God put His gift together.
- He's not a grown man;
 - He's a little baby.
 - He's not a knight in shining armor;
 - He's a little baby.

- He's tucked away in a feeding trough, in a manger, just over the hill and around the bend.

- Just a baby wrapped in:
 - Mystery
 - History
 - Prophecy.
- And then this angel is interrupted by a heavenly host.
(**Luke 2:13**)

- ***"Glory to God
in the highest,
and on earth
peace,
Good will toward men."***

- What they heard that that night.
- Had never been heard before
 - Never to be heard again.

- And what did the shepherds do?
 - They immediately headed to Bethlehem.
 - There was no doubt.
 - There was no unbelief.
 - There was no mockery.
 - They went in haste.
- (Luke 2:16)

- They found their way to Mary and Joseph and the baby as it lay in the manger.
- And when they saw the baby,
 - What did they say?
 - Nothing is recorded as there are no words to describe
 - God's indescribable gift.

- God offers His indescribable gift to everyone.

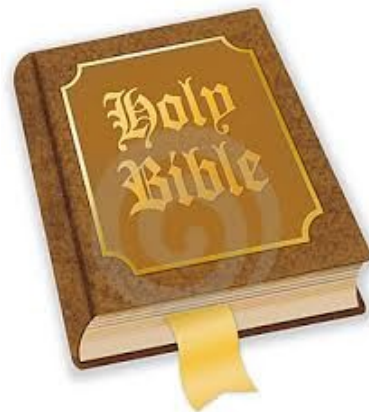
- Have you accepted that gift?

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



- <https://www.preachingtoday.com/sermons/sermons/2005/august/027.html>
- 12-25-2022 Tryon, NC
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