God's Unspeakable Gift 2 Corinthians 9:15

I trust you all are looking forward to a wonderful Christmas. I hope you take some time to reflect on the birth of our Savior and the provision He made for humanity. He is the reason for our hope today.

Now I'm sure some will be disappointed this Christmas because there was one certain item that would make or break their Christmas. I am glad that my joy doesn't depend on the latest trend or gadget. My joy is settled in the Lord. Of all that I've received, none compare or bring the joy found within the gracious gift of God.

In our text, Paul had reflected on the generosity of the saints and was thankful for their obedience. He closes the chapter focusing on God's unspeakable gift. As we examine the certainties revealed in this verse, I want to consider: God's Unspeakable Gift.

<u>I. The Presentation of the Gift</u> – As we receive and open gifts, we like to know who has given them. The same holds true with the gift we are considering today. Notice:

<u>A. Its Source</u> – Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift. The gift of salvation was given by God Himself. Who could have given Christ the Son but God the Father? The redeemed have received a personal gift from God. John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. If you are saved, you have received the greatest gift ever given. God gave His only begotten Son to die for the sins of the world. The Lord loved me and offered His Son that I might be saved. Jesus loved me and offered Himself for me! We are the recipients of God's gift!

B. Its Significance – Consider the grace involved in the gift of God. Man was created in His image, for His glory – and yet man sinned, rebelled, and turned away from God. Down through the ages, men have rejected God, turning to worship and serve false gods. The love of God for men's souls was repaid with acts of disobedience: Adam and Eve; Aaron and the golden calf; murmuring about the manna; doubt among the spies; following Baal in Canaan, etc. When Jesus came, He was rejected by His own. We live in a blessed nation and many deny the very existence of God and reject the shed blood of Christ. God was fully aware of the sinfulness and depravity of mankind, yet He sent His Son anyway.

• How many of us send gifts to those who despise us? God did that for us. What a significant gift! 1 John 4:10 – Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Rom.5:8 – But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

II. The Perfection of the Gift – God gave the greatest gift ever given. Let's take a moment to consider His gift. Notice:

<u>A. Its Basis</u> – Gifts by their very nature are free. They are not earned or given with the expectation of something in return. After all, we had nothing to give. What could lowly sinners possibly offer God in exchange for our redemption?

Gifts are also given on a voluntary basis. God sent His Son in order to pardon our sin.
Christ willingly became our sacrifice. He died upon the cross because he wanted to free us from the bondage of sin. We enjoy the favor of God because He chose to offer this great gift! We were undeserving, but Christ came anyway.

• Finally, gifts are given without time restraint. They are not given to be used for a while and returned. Salvation is ours because of God's grace for all eternity. His gift was given because of His loving mercy and grace. We could never earn or deserve His precious gift. Eph.2:8-9 – For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ^[9] Not of works, lest any man should boast.

<u>B. Its Beauty</u> – God gave an unspeakable gift, an indescribable gift. The value of His gift is beyond measure. We are offered the Pearl of great price, the very best that heaven had to offer. God's gift wasn't found on the "bargain rack" at half price. He gave us His Son; He who has a name above every name; He who the heavens worship.

If God would've given all the wealth the world affords a thousand times over or even the angelic hosts, he would've given less. God spared not His Son for you and me! We can't comprehend the beauty of His gift. He withheld nothing from us but offered everything. Of all that I have received in this life, God's gift is certainly the best and most beautiful. 1 John 4:9- In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

<u>**C. Its Bounty**</u> – God's gift fully met my need. I was lost in sin, separated from God, and destined for hell, but Jesus changed all that when I received Him. His sacrifice fully atoned for my sin. There are no premiums to pay, no maintenance fees, nor renewing of my policy – just complete, eternal salvation! I have no need that my Lord cannot and will not supply. He is ever mindful of those who belong to Him. Phil.4:19 – But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

• I haven't fully grasped the magnitude of what I've received. I have been saved for nearly 40 years and I still haven't figured out all that God has done for me. There are riches and blessings yet untold for the child of God. 1 Cor.2:9- But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. We haven't even scratched the surface of God's unspeakable gift! 1 John 5:11 – And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

III. The Possession of the Gift – We have considered the Giver and the Gift, now let's consider the joy of possessing this unspeakable gift. Consider:

<u>A. Its Availability</u> – Isn't God's unspeakable gift the greatest thing you've ever had the possibility to possess? People might ask who could possibly receive such a gift. What is required to obtain this great gift? The blessing of God's gift is that it is available to all who desire to receive it. Christ came to die for whosoever will come unto Him.

It isn't reserved for a special elite group, but for the whole world. Rev.22:17b – And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. There are none to poor, none to wicked, none to lonely, none to desperate, or none to righteous to receive this gift. For those who are searching for that one thing to make their life complete, Jesus is the answer. John 6:37 – All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. Isn't God's love amazing? He has offered redemption and eternal life to all who come unto Him! All can possess God's unspeakable gift!

<u>B. Its Reliability</u> – We have all received gifts that were cheaply made and didn't hold up or last. Even the best made items wear out and decay over time. God's gift is superior in that it will never fade away or decay. The gift of God is eternal. As I said, I was saved nearly 40 years ago and I still enjoy the power and blessing of God as much, if not more, than I did at the moment I was saved. Once you've received the gift of God, you will never find it lacking or less than you expected! In fact, the gift of God will remain after death. It is the only thing that man can take with him when he dies. I rejoice to know that I have been abundantly blessed with God's unspeakable, eternal gift. John 10:28 – And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. The gift of God was given by Him and no man will ever be able to take it away. It is secure in the hand of God! Much of what people receive will be thrown in a closet or basket somewhere and forgotten, but the gift of God is fresh and new every day. It is near to us at all times.

<u>**C. Its Accountability**</u> – God sent His Son as the Savior of the world. He offered an unspeakable gift. It is available for all to receive. In fact, God expects us to receive His gift. Jesus paid a great price that we might have salvation. We shall all stand before God one day in judgment. The only thing that will matter then is whether you possess God's unspeakable gift! For those who receive it, their names are recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life, never to be removed. The Book will be opened one day and those who are not found therein will be judged and sentenced to the lake of fire. Rev.20:15 – And whosever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Conclusion: Have you received the gift of God? If not, it is being freely offered today. Come and receive this unspeakable gift from the Lord. Christian, rejoice in what you have been given. We have received the very best that heaven offers, eternal life in Christ!