

TWO CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

1 John 5:9-13

INTRODUCTION: Often in our lives our suspicions as to why someone would do something wonderful for us ruins many of God's finest gifts to us! Our God has two gifts He wishes for us to receive as we approach this Christmas season. First the gift of eternal life and second the gift of the assurance of our salvation!

I. THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE!

Our God has offered each of us a free gift. This gift is for "whomsoever will." There are no strings attached to this wonderful gift. This gift is an eternal gift "to whosoever will." It is the gift of eternal life! John 3:16-21. We all have many doubts in life but we soon learn that our doubts about others intentions can rob us of many wonderful blessings. We trust others for all kinds of things and we need to learn to trust our Lord for this greatest of gifts! 1 John 5:9-13. The gift of eternal life is the gift of the very life of God and we receive this gift the very moment we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and to be our personal Lord and Savior! 1 John 5:13. Many do not know how to receive God's greatest gift: John 3:1-6. Sadly many think this is way too narrow; only one way to eternal life! Jesus explained how one can be born into God's family: John 1:12-13; Galatians 3:26-27. Through personal faith in Jesus Christ you too can know you have been saved from the Lake of Fire and born into the kingdom of God! Romans 10:9-10, 13. Are you a "whosoever?"

II. THE GIFT OF THE ASSURANCE OF YOUR ETERNAL LIFE!

Why is it that so many people who call themselves Christians have no assurance of eternal life with their Lord in heaven and on the New Earth? Although they have received Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, believed that Jesus is the One who died to pay for their sin and rose from the dead three days later; yet they still are not sure of their salvation. Here are the reasons many are not sure of their salvation. First, they may not be saved! So many today are trying to be accepted by God by their good works. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; Acts 4:12. If our salvation could be from our own good works Jesus died in vain. Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:5-7. Second; they may be under satanic attack. God says you are saved if you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior but Satan asks us a lot of questions about our salvation. The question is who are you going to believe: the Lord or Satan? John 8:44; Revelation 12:10-12; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. Jesus said: John 14:1-6; John 17:17-26. Third, the person may not remember the exact date of their salvation! Forth, they are not walking in obedience to God's Word: Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 John 4:15-18. Fifth, they may believe they have committed the unpardonable sin! 1 John 1:9.

III. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR OUR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST?

It is the powerful promises of Almighty God: John 3:16; John 5:24; John 10:27-20; Romans 5:6-10; Romans 8:33-39; Hebrews 10:11-14; Hebrews 7:25.