

# Our Father's Indescribable Gift of Love

Notes by Franklin

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year because it all about LOVE & GIVING.

Our Father showed us **how much He loves us** by **sending His only begotten Son** into the world so that **we** might **live** through Him.

1 John 4:8-9

Why would He do that?

For God **so loved** the world, that **He gave His only begotten Son**

John 3:16

Thank God for His Son — a Gift too Wonderful for words!

2Cor 9:15 NLT

Now the **birth** of **JESUS CHRIST** was as follows: Matthew 1:18

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Luke 1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth (27) to a **virgin** engaged to a man whose name was **Joseph**, of the descendants of David; and **the virgin's name was Mary**.

- This was the Announcement Fulfilling the prophecy of: **Isaiah 7:14**  
Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign: Behold, **a virgin will be with child** and bear a son, and she will call His name **Immanuel**.
- This declares that it will be a **miraculous birth** as in the natural a virgin cannot be with child without a man.
- It also declares the **moral character** of Mary that **qualified** her for the Lord's mission.
- The Scriptures tell us that our **moral character** and how we live our life can **qualify or disqualify** us for certain ministry or intimacy.
  - Paul said: **I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that I myself will not be disqualified.** 1Corinthians 9:24-27
  - And Paul says to us in 2Timothy 2:19-22: **Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. if anyone cleanses himself from these things, (and 1John1:9) he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.**

- o 2 Chron 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

Her **morale character** was a result of her PASSION for the LORD

This is the kind of people the LORD is looking for & that the world needs.

(28) And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, **highly favored** one! The **Lord is with you.**"

- To be chosen as the mother of the SON OF GOD, the Messiah, she was indeed **highly favored**.
- The **Lord is with you: HE IS ALSO WITH YOU & IN YOU**  
If the Lord is with you, anything is possible! JESUS said:  
**I will never leave you nor forsake you.** Hebrews 13:5

(29) But she was **very troubled** at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of greeting this was. (30) The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for **you have found favor with God.**

- Twice now Gabriel has declared Mary's **favor** with the LORD.
- Mary's character had placed her in **highly favored position**.
- The most **valuable** thing you can do with your life is to **pursue favor with The LORD**.

(31) And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and **you shall name Him Jesus.**

- Now she is certainly perplexed in that, she is not married.
- And, as was customary, **His FATHER named Him: JESUS.**

Your FATHER has also given YOU a New Name.

(Rev.2:17; Isiah 43:1; 62:2; 65:15)

(32) He will be **great** and will be called **the Son of the Most High**; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; (33) and He will reign over the house of Jacob **forever**, and His kingdom will have no end.

- Fulfilling the Promise to David: Your **house** and your **kingdom** shall endure before Me forever; your **throne** shall be established **forever**.  
2 Samuel 7:16-17
- And Fulfilling the prophecy of: **Isaiah 9:6-7**  
For a **child** will be **born** to us, a **son** will be **given** to us

The "child" had a beginning, at birth. But the "Son will be given" declares the Son already existed.

And the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (7) There will be **no end** to the increase of His **government** or of **peace, on the throne of David** and over His Kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with **justice** and **righteousness** from then on and **for evermore**. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

(34) Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since **I am a virgin?**"

- Mary, was very puzzled, and asks a legitimate and clarifying question. The only way a child had ever been conceived required a man and a woman.

(35) The angel answered and said to her, "The **Holy Spirit** will come **upon you**, and the **power** of the **Most High** will overshadow you; and **for that reason** the **Holy Child** shall be called **The SON OF GOD**."

- Answering her question, "this is how you will know Mary, you will become pregnant **without a man.**"

When the **Holy Spirit** comes **upon** you, the **power** of the **Most High** can bring about whatever He desires – new birth, a new creation, healing, new eyes, new organs, prophecy, new language, . . . whatever He desires.

All of this Declares Clearly and with Certainty that:

- ❖ JESUS CHRIST is **The Son of God** – **DIVINE** - without sin, the only Acceptable Sacrifice. Not from Adam (Rom.5:12) \*see footnote\*
- ❖ Born a MAN, from a woman, and therefore **HUMAN**.
- ❖ **A child was born to us, a son was given** Isaiah 9:6.

The mystery of the incarnation - the divine becoming human

(38) And Mary said, Behold, the **bondslave** of the Lord; **may it be done to me according to your word**. And the angel departed from her.

For a teenager facing misunderstanding and rejection from her family, her betrothed, and her village, knowing that for a young woman to bear a child out of marriage, could potentially result in stoning . . . . (Deut.22:22-24).

And yet, **without hesitation, she agrees** and **offers her body** as a living and **holy sacrifice which is well pleasing** to The LORD. Romans 12:1

This is GREAT FAITH. TOTAL TRUST. TOTAL COMMITMENT to the LORD's WILL for her life.

**A high mark for all of us to aspire and reach.**

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The LORD is looking for TEENAGERS LIKE THIS, men & women, with the moral character of Mary, offering HIM **their body as a holy sacrifice, well pleasing to the LORD** willing to face rejection if necessary from friends.

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Mary demonstrates the true meaning of **HIS Lordship over her life: I am the Lord's slave** which literally translates the Greek δουλοσ (in Eng.-doulos).  
(the NIV translates it servant)

There is a difference between a **slave** and a **servant**.

- A **servant is not owned** by the one they serve
- A **slave is owned** by their master. Mary acknowledges His Lordship.

The Greek words make this distinction clear.

The Greek words meaning **servant** are: παιδοσ and διακονοσ - servant or deacon. The Greek word for **slave** is: δουλοσ.

There is a beautiful lesson here if we carefully translate these words.

**Slave** (δουλοσ) refers back to **Deuteronomy 15:12-17**

If your kinsman, a Hebrew man or woman, is sold to you, then he shall **serve** you six years, but in the seventh year you shall set him free. . . .  
(16) It shall come about if he says to you, '**I will not go out from you,**' **because he loves you and your household, since he fares well with you;** (17) then you shall take an **awl** and **pierce it through his ear** into the door, and **he shall be your bond-servant forever** (thus a slave). Also you shall do likewise to your **maidservant**.

Please notice – the **servant** in this verse determines if he wants to be a **slave** or **just remain a servant** to his Master. WE MAKE THIS DECISION.

This is exactly what Mary says to the LORD. Behold, the **bond-slave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.**

- Each one of us needs to make the same spoken commitment . . .

**She is committing her life to His will**, not knowing how Joseph, her parents, or the village would respond.

This is the true meaning of **Your Kingdom come, your will be done.** (Mt.6:10; Luke 11:2) To truly pray this prayer, we are committing our self not as servant but as the LORD's slave.

**This is TOTAL COMMITMENT to The LORD** regardless of my will, my desires, my wants, my plans, whether it is easy or difficult, even unto death.

This Attitude of Total Surrender and Obedience is, in THE FAMILY.

Mary's SON did the same, He totally surrendered to His FATHER. And being in The Family, we are told to do the same:

Philippians 2:5-11 **Let this mind be IN YOU** which was also in Christ Jesus

- **we have the mind of Christ.** (1 Cor.2:16) Because **Christ lives in us** (Galatians 2:20)
  - **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you . . you are not your own. You have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.** 1Cor.6:19-20 As did Mary
  - **We have this treasure** (the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ) **in earthen vessels**, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves 2 Cor.4:7
- When you believed, you were impregnated and **born again by the incorruptible seed by the living, abiding, Word of God** implanted in you (1Peter1:23).
- The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ **was birthed within us.**

➤ And: “**God is love.**” **Love was birthed in us.** (1 John 3:22-23; 4:15-17)

And now, because: **the love of Christ controls us** (2Cor.5:14)

I am patient    I am kind    I do not envy    I am not jealous

I do not boast    I am not proud    I am not rude    I am not self-seeking

I am not easily angered    I keep no record of wrongs    I dislike all evil

I rejoice with Truth    I always protect    I always Trust    I always hope

I always persevere    My Love never fails.    1 Corinthians 13:4-8

As vessels - full of the Holy Spirit - we are to allow the LORD JESUS CHRIST and His Love for people, and His power, to be known, to be seen, everywhere we go and to everyone we meet

Giving the Gift of Love and Life to as many as will accept it.

When we **fully accept** His Life in us, which requires some work on our part: in reference to your former manner of life, **PUT OFF** the **old self**, which is corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you **be renewed** in the **spirit of your mind**, and **PUT ON THE NEW SELF**, which of God has been created in **righteousness** and true **holiness**.

Eph. 4:22-24

When we **fully accept** His Life in us and acknowledge His LORDSHIP as His bondslaves, this is what we will look like:

## Philippians 2

(6) He . . . did not regard **equality with God** a thing to be held on to,  
(7) but **emptied** Himself taking the form of a **bond-servant** . . .

- in a small way, we make ourselves **equal with God**, or **as God**, when we are in the “driver’s seat,” and until we **empty ourselves** or surrender the “throne of our life” to HIM.
- Then, we will no longer struggle to be somebody . . . striving for a position . . . seeking prominence . . . significance . . . seeking my way and my will to be done. **But striving to meet the needs of others and make them successful.**

- We will give up our Right to be Right . . . to have the last word . . . to win the argument. Just SURRENDER, "take up your cross."

Here is a good life-verse for all of us:

**To this you were called**, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us **an example**, that you should **follow His steps**: Who committed **no sin**, no **deceit** was in His mouth; when He was reviled, **He did not revile in return**; when He suffered, **He spoke no threats**, but **committed Himself to Him** who judges righteously. 1Peter 2:21-24

And Isaiah 53:7:

He was **oppressed** and **afflicted**, yet **He did not open His mouth** . . . As a sheep before its shearers is **silent**, So He **did not open His mouth**.

This will Totally Transform your Marriage! And how you get along with everyone. **be quick to hear, slow to speak** (James 1:19)

The LORD wants us to become all we were created to be by **Emptying our self** and **allowing HIM to live HIS LIFE in and through us**.

- ▶ In this way the GIFT of Christmas will be Given again and again . . .

And: **taking the form of a bond-slave** Same as Mary.

- We are a **bond-slave** to the LORD and a **servant** to all others.
- Live the life of a servant to your wife/husband and to everyone.

**just as** the Son of Man did not come to be served, **but to serve**

- This is the model of how life is lived in the Kingdom of God.  
**Emptying yourself to serve and honor others**

(8) Being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** by becoming **obedient to the point of death**, even **death on a cross**.

- Jesus said to His disciples, **If anyone will come after Me** (let Me live My Life in them) **he must deny himself**, and **take up his cross** (death to self) **and follow Me**. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; **but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it**. Matt 16:24-25

**will find it** - what you were created for, with PEACE that passes understanding and JOY inexpressible & full of Glory.

(9) **For this reason, God also highly exalted Him,**

Whoever wishes **to be great** among you shall be your **servant**, whoever wishes **to be first** shall be your **slave just as** the Son of Man did not come to be served, **but to serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Mt. 20:26-28

**but to serve, and to give your life** so that JESUS may be seen in HIS GREAT LOVE FOR PEOPLE.

and bestowed on Him **the name** which is above every name, (10) so that at the name of JESUS EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and that every tongue will confess that **Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God The FATHER.**

Thanks be to God for His **indescribable Gift!** 2 Cor.9:15

For God so **loved . . .** that **HE GAVE His only begotten Son**, that **whoever believes in Him** shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16

The Gift, & Giving of His Son Jesus Christ Continues to this very day.

To as many as **received Him** (God's Gift of Love), to them **He gave** the right to be **children of God.** John 1:12

WHAT AN AMAZING GIFT !

Every good and perfect **gift is from above**, coming down from the Father James 1:17

The GIFT OF HIS SON – The Gift of The HOLY SPIRIT –  
The Gifts of the Spirit - The Gift of Grace, Mercy,  
Forgiveness, Peace . . . The Gift of Eternal Life . . . The  
Gift of Every Breath . . . Every Beat of our Heart . . .



All that we have . . . All that we are . . . ARE GIFTS TO US from OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.

- AND -

We all have been commissioned & empowered to be GIVERS of GOD'S INDESCRIBABLE GIFT of LOVE to Others.

Let me remind you again: When you believed:

You were impregnated and **born again by the incorruptible seed, the living, abiding, Word of God** implanted in you (1Peter1:23).

The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ - The Lord God Almighty - God who is LOVE - **was birthed within you.**

We carry HIM - We carry The HOLY SPIRIT of JESUS CHRIST with the same mission as Mary - **to deliver Him to this world**

Jesus said: **While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.** John 9:5

Then He said to His disciples: **You are the light of the world . . . Let your light so shine before men so that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.** Matt 5:14-16

May we respond as Mary **behold, the bonds slave of the LORD, may it be done to me according to Your Word.** Luke 1:38

And we acknowledge that we also have been chosen to be a "vessel" to carry and deliver Your Precious SON into this dark world.

This is what Christmas is all about.

This is what our Life is all about.

# HIS Indescribable Gift of LOVE

Behold what manner of LOVE the FATHER has bestowed upon us, that we should be called, Children of God.

1John3:1

Enjoy, Celebrate and Give Thanks for His GIFT of LOVE - His SON, JESUS CHRIST.

And GIVE His GIFT of LOVE & LIFE to Others.

The Best & Greatest Gift You can Give to Your Family, Loved Ones and Friends is . . . YOURSELF . . . saying as Mary did:

Behold, the bond slave of the LORD . . .

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**\*DIVINE** - without sin. If He had an earthly father He would have a sin nature like the rest of us and therefore would not be The Perfect Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

God created the "first Adam" and "first man," when he sinned, he passed that sin nature on to every person born after and from him.

1 Corinthians 15:45 So it is written, "The **first man, Adam**, became a living soul." The **last Adam** (there will not be another) a life-giving spirit. <sup>47</sup> The **first man** is from the earth, the **second man** is from heaven.

Romans 5:12 Through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned

The "last Adam" and the "second man" God created through the virgin birth, did not have Adam's sin nature and committed no sin and therefore was the only Acceptable Sacrifice – **The Lamb of God** (John 1:29 & 36).

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made **Him who knew no sin** to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.