

The Indescribable Gift

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

¹⁵Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”

- 2 Corinthians 9:12-15

The Context:

- The Apostle Paul is writing to the people in Corinth, a city in southern Greece.
- Paul writes to THANK these people for their generosity towards other believers. Their gift-giving was a service that proved their faithfulness and caused others to praise God.
- But this kind of giving was also a great example to others who will hopefully also be generous givers.
- Paul closed his thoughts with a benediction, reminding everyone about the greatest gift ever given. He calls this gift “indescribable.”
*“Thanks be to God for His **indescribable** gift!”* - 2 Corinthians 9:15
*“Thanks be to God for His **unspeakable** gift!”* - 2 Cor. 9:15 (KJV)
- The word is ἀνεκδιήγητος (anekdiēgētos) and is only used here in the Bible. It means “to try to describe something when words fail.”

So why is God’s gift so hard to describe?

1. God's gift to us is personal, and yet it is for anybody and everybody.

*“For God so loved **the world** that He gave His one and only Son, that **whoever** believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* - John 3:16

*“Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given **you** living water.”*

- John 4:10

“The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!”

***Whoever** is thirsty, let him come; and **whoever** wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”*

- Revelation 22:7

Although God’s gift needs to be a different “size” for everyone, it still “fits” everyone!

*“The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, **grace increased all the more**”*

- Romans 5:20

2. God's gift to us is priceless, and yet it is free.

*“How **priceless** is your unfailing love!”*

- Psalm 36:7

*“For you know that it was **not with** perishable things such as **silver or gold** that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the **precious blood of Christ**, a lamb without blemish or defect.”*

- 1 Peter 1:18,19

*“He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink **without cost** from the spring of the water of life.”*

- Revelation 21:6

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3. God's gift to us is practical, and yet unexplainable.

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

- Matthew 19:23-26

*“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, **no mind has conceived** what God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

- 1 Corinthians 2:9

4. God's gift to us is permanent, and yet it is new every day.

*“Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but **a son belongs** to it **forever**.”*

- John 8:35

*“...but because Jesus lives forever, He has a **permanent** priesthood.”* - Hebrews 7:24

*“Because of the **LORD’s** great love we are not consumed, for **His compassions** never fail. They are **new every morning**; great is your faithfulness.”* - Lamentations 3:22,23

5. God's gift to us is perfect in every possible way.

- The Giver of the gift is perfect.

*“Be perfect, therefore, as **your Heavenly Father is perfect**.”* - Romans 5:20

- The gift itself is perfect (and it remains perfect throughout your life!)

*“For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the **Son**, who has been made **perfect forever**.”* - Heb. 7:28

- The gift makes the receiver perfect.

*“...because by one sacrifice He has **made perfect forever** those who are being made holy.”* - Hebrews 10:14

- In fact, the only perfect gift you'll ever receive is from your Heavenly Father.

*“Every good and **perfect gift** is from above, coming down **from the Father** of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”* - James 1:17

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