

# GOSPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

## PULPIT SERIES

Gospel Community Church, 54 Atlantic Ave. West Sayville, NY 11796

#4

## JESUS DRIVEN CHURCH

### THE GIVING GOD

Paul called Jesus the unspeakable gift, “Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.” (2 Cor 9:15) In Him we have received treasures beyond measure such that we rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

So let's start with a scripture that we all know speaks of this gift coming from the Father in heaven.

#### ENORMITY OF GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE FOR SINNERS

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.

The very fact that God would send His son to die for man, who is rebellious, arrogant, proud, and stiff-necked, who loves darkness rather than light, reveals the enormity of His love. Just imagine that the God of the universe would sacrifice His Son for our redemption, and salvation. What great love!

The operative word here in this verse for us is “believe.” Do you believe this?

If you do then you will be blessed to hear all that Jesus came to give you.

But before we get there let's first look at what He gave to His Father.

#### HE GAVE HIMSELF AS A PLEASURE TO HIS FATHER

Eph 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

As we stated concerning a Jesus Driven Church, it comes under the authority of the Father, just as Jesus came under the authority of His Father. His chief desire was to please His Father. The Father takes great pleasure in His Son Jesus. He delights in the glory of His perfections which are a reflection of the countenance of Christ. Yet we are told by Isaiah that, “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou

shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.” (Isa 53:10) Why did the Father bruise His Son. John Piper in his book “The Pleasures of God,” answers, “To resolve the dissonance between His love for His glory and His love for sinners.” Jesus went willing to the cross to please His Father who He loved and to redeem man who He also loved.

I Jn 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.

When man dishonored God and sinned in the Garden, God's justice demanded a penalty. However the penalty for sin is death or we could say it is the wrath of God.

#### HE GAVE HIMSELF AS A SACRIFICE TO ABSORB THE WRATH OF GOD

Because God is both just and loving, His love is willing to meet the demands of His justice. Mercy and Truth met at

the Cross. Jesus was willing to pay the price so that God's wrath was satisfied.

**HE GAVE HIMSELF TO BECOME A RANSOM FOR MANY**

Matt 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

We were all condemned because of sin. So Jesus freely came and gave His life to pay the price for our release. He didn't need our help, He came to give and to serve of His own accord. The ransom has been paid. We have been set free from the bondage (slave market) of sin.

**HE GAVE HIMSELF TO PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR JUSTIFICATION**

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace (as a gift) through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Justification is a legal term. It means to be declared innocent – not guilty. Through Jesus blood our debt, our penalty has been cancelled. But that has not made us innocent or not guilty. You see Jesus not only paid our debt, our penalty, he also imputed to us His righteousness. So we now stand in His righteousness and as we stand in the court room of heaven, God the judge declares, we are NOT GUILTY.

This is what Jesus gave to His Father to set us free, to redeem us, to save us. But His giving did not stop there. Now lets

look at what He also freely gives to us.

**HE GIVES US ETERNAL LIFE**

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.

Although we can dream about eternal life, it's hard to fathom it with our finite minds. The important thing is that God the Father has said it, and Jesus has procured it for us.

Jesus even says to us, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32)

If Jesus tells us to "Fear not," then why should we be fearful, which brings us to our next point?

**HE GIVES US PROTECTION FOR THIS ETERNAL LIFE**

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.

If you have any reservation about the fact that you can lose your salvation let me simply say that Jesus promises that it can not be taken away. If you didn't do anything to obtain it, you can't do anything to lose it. The real question is do you have it, and are you assured you have it.

**HE GIVES US THE ENABLEMENT TO LIVE BY FAITH IN HIM**

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

When we die, Christ lives. I'm not talking about that one finality which occurs to the fleshly body. When we die to each ungodly desire, Christ lives. How does this happen, BY FAITH. Oh by the way, the Faith comes from Him.

He inhabits, supplies, sustains and strengthens.

**HE GIVES US DELIVERANCE FROM THIS PRESENT EVIL WORLD**

Gal 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

We are in the world but not of the world. In other words, Jesus in not delivering us out of the world. He is delivering us from the POWER of evil in this present world that we live in. We once walked according to the course of this world, but we have been set free. How does this happen?

**HE GIVES US POWER OVER EVIL**

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

We can't do it in the power of our corrupted flesh. So He gives us power, the HOLY SPIRIT to be overcomers.

### HE GIVES US ALL THINGS THAT ARE GOOD

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

ALL THINGS here are not all things. They are all GOOD things. All Righteous things. All things that will keep us in right standing with God.

If that new boat will cause you to have lustful desires, then God isn't promising that you will have it.

### HE GIVES US A PASSION FOR GOOD WORKS

Titus 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Jesus desires us to be zealous, passionate for good works. These good works are works which will glorify God the Father. Since He came to bring glory to His Father, He desires the same for us.

### HE GIVES US A SECURE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that

raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken (gives life to) your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

The death and resurrection of Jesus is God's proof to us that His promise is true. The keys of death were hung in the tomb. When Jesus died and rose again, he took the keys and unlocked the door of death from the inside. Another way to say this is that he destroyed death from the inside out. From its very heart.

### HE GIVES US KNOWLEDGE AND LIGHT

Luke 1:77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

The knowledge and understanding that your sins are remitted builds faith to believe all that God has said is true.

Luke 1:79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

He gives us light to recall the darkness we were in, and to serve in discerning the way we need to lead our lives.

Eph 5:14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

To those that are sleeping, that are apathetic, that are indifferent to the things of God, He clearly says WAKE UP, he wants to shine His light upon you.

### HE GIVES US PEACE

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The world gives only a temporary peace. A peace based on detaunte, equal balance. Jesus gives us a real peace in the depths of our soul and spirit. One that says there is life in death, there is hope when all seems hopeless, there is forgiveness when we are overcome with bitterness, anger and hatred.

### HE GIVES US A NEW COMMANDMENT

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

In actuality this is not a new commandment. It can be found in the Old Testament. What makes it new is that it now can be accomplished because of the new covenant. We can do this because the Spirit of God in us can do it.

Acts 20:35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

And here Jesus sets the tone for what His people ought to do. Be givers not receivers only. The greater blessing is in the giving.

Matt 10:8 Heal the sick,  
cleanse the lepers, raise the  
dead, cast out devils: freely ye  
have received, freely give.

Here He tells us we did nothing  
to receive these wonderful  
things from Him, so as we have  
freely received, we need to  
freely give back.

Some thing that we should only  
give what we have gotten. But  
as usual God who is in the  
giving business says to us:

Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be  
given unto you; good measure,  
pressed down, and shaken  
together, and running over, shall  
men give into your bosom. For  
with the same measure that ye  
mete withal it shall be measured  
to you again.

You see you can never out give  
God. He establishes a principal,  
to the extent you give, you will  
receive back.