



# JESUS, THE PERFECT GIFT

December 2019

Dear friends, family and lifeline holders,

We pray that you are enjoying the very best of our Lord's blessings and are looking forward to the celebration of Jesus Christ's incarnation, the "Perfect Gift."

Much of the emphasis during this celebration is on giving and receiving gifts. It costs money to buy material things that satisfy for only a short time. It is a way to show care and love and appreciation. However, we should not forget that God has given us the "Perfect Gift" in Jesus Christ. This Gift never wears out or becomes useless or unneeded. Of course, we speak of the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has mightily blessed us. He has blessed us with a family that enjoys unity and love. He has given us a measure of health, even at age 83, and I won't mention the age of the other half. He has blessed us in surviving another year of marriage to add up to 61 years. Doris has survived another year even with Alzheimer's, and God has given Elwood the grace to be somewhat of a caregiver. He has also blessed us with some of the godliest friends a man could have. You have stayed with us when our labor has been small in the work you sent us to do. You have been faithful in supplying our needs, and many have been faithful in communication with us. He has also blessed us with a wonderful church and pastor that show genuine love and care.

What better gift could a person want than all of these and the promise of a much brighter future with the One born in Bethlehem who now waits for us in heaven? We are so very thankful for the "Perfect Gift" and for His people whom we are blessed to know and serve alongside.

Though maybe small in the eyes of some, God has blessed us with some opportunities to serve Him. Our good pastor has blessed us with opportunities to serve in our local church, and we have also been blessed to help with a children's ministry in a public school. I have the chance to witness to many folks as we go about locally doing business. God has also blessed me with the opportunity to do some preaching from time to time. A family that we pastored in Guam honored me with the opportunity to officiate for a wedding in Florida for the marriage of a young lady that was born while we were in Guam. That was a real blessing to me.

Again, from the depth of our hearts, thank you for your faithfulness in standing with us during this time of limitations in our work. We love and appreciate and pray for you. We thank God for the mission family of World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions, who have allowed us to serve with them for over 40 years. We pray for the Lord to bless and increase your strength and number. We also pray that the One who is the "Perfect Gift" will be real and precious to each of you as we observe and celebrate His incarnation.

Because of Christ,

*Elwood and Doris Hurst*