

## THE GIFT OF GOD

Bible Reading: Romans 6:16-23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23

None of us could ever earn his way to heaven. If we should now begin to serve God to the very utmost of our ability--if we should destroy every fleshly lust and do away with every sinful impulse, as far as we possibly could--it still would avail us nothing. We are under God's wrath and deserve condemnation for the sin in which we were born and for the sins which we have committed thus far in our lives.

There is no way in which a man could ever earn his way to heaven. There is no way in which we could win the favor of God by any goodness in ourselves or by anything that we could do. This would be as **impossible** as for a little child working with toy paints to earn enough money to buy an **expensive** limousine. Such a child could receive this only by a gift from its parents. He could never possibly earn it. The only way a human being can ever receive eternal life is as a gift from God.

How wonderful that God offers eternal life to every human being as a free gift. How wonderful that Jesus Christ has earned this at tremendous cost! He gave Himself on Calvary to pay the penalty for our sins. All that we must do--in fact, all that we can do--is simply to receive the free gift from Him and to thank Him for it.

Sometimes people find it hard to understand that so wonderful a privilege could be a free gift. Yet this is the only way we could possibly get it. God paid the entire price. He offers it to us freely. May His Spirit lead each one of us to accept the free gift and to make absolutely sure that he has become a child of God, by **grace through faith in Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

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