

THE GIFT OF GOD

Merry Christmas to you!

Putting these three gifts together we see the full picture. *“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” - John 3:16*

The wise men, knowing Jesus' identity from the Hebrew Scriptures, gladly worshiped Him. This means they acknowledged His “worth” and offered back to Him their love and allegiance.

This Christmas, as you realize all that Jesus came to do for you, may you know the joy of welcoming and worshipping, not baby Jesus still in the manger, but the *risen Jesus* who is coming again soon.

It has been over 2000 years since His first visit, but He has promised to return for those who love Him: *“I will come again and receive you to my side, that where I am, there you may be also.” - John 14:3*

Hope to see you there!



The Gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ!

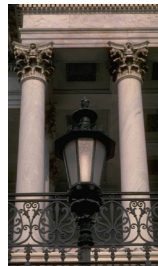


Old Landmarks Christian Fellowship Of Burns Lake, BC

Wishes everyone a very
Merry Christmas!

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OLD LANDMARKS PUBLICATIONS

AND WHEN THEY WERE COME INTO THE HOUSE, THEY SAW THE YOUNG CHILD WITH MARY HIS MOTHER, AND FELL DOWN AND WORSHIPPED HIM: AND WHEN THEY HAD OPENED THEIR TREASURES, THEY PRESENTED TO HIM THEIR GIFTS -

GOLD,
FRANKINCENSE
AND MYRRH

MATTHEW 2:11



GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH



Gold:

When Jesus was born 2000 years ago, an entourage from the East came to honor Him.

“And the City was pure gold, like clear glass.”

If they came from Persia, the trip would have taken about three months!

Led by a miraculous star, they arrived in Bethlehem and upon seeing baby Jesus, immediately fell down and worshipped Him. Then they presented him with three gifts - gold, frankincense and myrrh. What did this group of men know that others missed? Their gifts tell the story.

Gold speaks of Heaven. The Bible describes Heaven as a *“City of pure gold, like clear glass.”* Its main street is also *“pure gold, as if it were transparent glass.”* - Revelation 21:18, 21

For this reason, the Jewish Tabernacle was overlaid with gold, along with all its furniture, because God told Moses to build it after the pattern of *“heavenly things.”*

The first gift of these wise men acknowledged the worth of Jesus. He was the King of Heaven come to visit earth - God the Son among men.

Frankincense:

The second gift of the wise men was frankincense. Frankincense is a sap that is harvested from the Boswellia tree. The bark is ‘slashed’ which is called ‘striping’ and the resin which ‘bleeds’ out hardens on the outer bark. These hardened resins are called ‘tears’ and are primarily used as perfume but also possess many healing properties.

Already the picture is made plain isn’t it? Jesus came to earth intentionally to pay the penalty our sins deserve, in order that we could be forgiven and have eternal life. How did He accomplish this? *“He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement that bought our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”* - Isaiah 53:5

Frankincense was also a main ingredient for the incense burned in the Temple during prayer times. It also had to be sprinkled on every free-will gift given to God. This teaches us our prayers and praises must ascend to Heaven in the precious name of Jesus.

Jesus is our living Frankincense who loved us so dearly, He came to heal us from our sins and give us eternal life by His own ‘tears’.



“By His stripes we are healed!”

Myrrh:

Myrrh is a combination of an essential oil and resin combined, that comes from the Commiphora tree. It is harvested just like the frankincense, (with the same terminology) but with more aggressive and repeated slashes.

Myrrh’s classification as a perfume is outweighed by its medicinal properties. It is an antiseptic, antibiotic, antioxidant, antifungal, antiviral, anti-spasmodic, an analgesic, etc! ...

So amazing are its properties that it was used to embalm the dead, not just to hide the rank of decay in hot countries, but as a way of saying to the dead, *“May you live again!”*

Once more we have a beautiful picture of what Jesus did for us! By His resurrection He guaranteed ever-lasting life to all who place their trust in Him. *“I am the resurrection and the life. He that believes in Me, though he dies, yet shall he live.”* - John 11:25



“He that has the Son has life”

Those who have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior, have assurance of eternal life.

Jesus is our living Myrrh, and only through Him can we know both quality and length of life.