

## **Christmas - The Gift of God**

**Text:** Romans 6:23

**Context** - The book of Romans is Paul's magnum opus on the Gospel. In Chapter 6, he is comparing our old slavery to sin to our new slavery to righteousness in Christ.

### **To unwrap God's gift...**

#### **1. \_\_\_\_\_ the penalty of your sins (vs. 23a)**

- A. "Wages" implies that the punishment for sin is what one has earned and what one deserves. (ESV Study Bible)
- B. The death being referred to here is not the death which separates the body from the soul but the death by which because of sin the soul is separated from God. (Origin, Commentary on Romans, 240 A.D.)

#### **2. \_\_\_\_\_ on the grace of God (vs. 23b)**

- A. One master (sin) pays an earned wage of death; the other master (God) pays in unearned grace, resulting in eternal life (Jn 17:3). (CSB Study Bible)
- B. Paul does not parallel "the wages of sin" with "the wages of good deeds" because he wants to show that they were not set free by their own efforts, nor had they done anything to earn their salvation. It was by grace alone that all these things came about. (John Chrysostom)

#### **3. \_\_\_\_\_ eternal life in Christ (vs. 23c)**

- A. Since it is a gift, it is not something that we can earn or that must be paid back - it must simply be received by faith.
- B. Our salvation is a gift of God, not something of our own doing (Ephesians 2:8, 9). He saved us because of his mercy, not because of any good things that we have done (Titus 3:5).