His Greatest Gift

Our God is a loving God shown by His greatest gift to us, part of himself, Yahshua (Jesus). Yet God freely offers many additional gifts, a plenteous variety of attributes that are both priceless and indispensable to living a life that successfully prepares for entrance into eternal life. Yet we seem intuitively opposed to receiving these wonderful gifts, preferring instead to cling to worldly pleasures which become our hard fixed priorities. Our problem centers with overcoming our self, the greatest danger to opening the door to these spiritual treasures. This study discusses the wide range of Godly gifts awaiting us if only we take the initiative to discover them.

There are many types of gifts that we all know about...those given from the heart, or given out of obligation. Are there gifts given without expecting anything in return? The word **GIFT**: Greek 5486. carisma charisma, khar'-is-mah from 5483; a (divine) gratuity as in deliverance (from danger or passion); (specially), a (spiritual) endowment, (subjectively) religious qualification, or (objectively) miraculous faculty: & (free) gift.

When someone does a nice gesture or demonstrates something kind, we feel there is no monetary payment for such kindness but we still feel an obligation to give them a little something in exemplifying their exhibited love and/or kindness.

There are "physical" differences of temporal gifts received in contrast to spiritual gifts.

Temporal gifts: The definition of "temporal" relates to worldly as opposed to spiritual affairs; secular of or relating to time.

And then of course are spiritual gifts... "spiritual" meaning of, relating to, or affecting the human spirit or soul, of relating to religion or religious belief as opposed to material or physical things.

We live in a world today that seems obsessed over material things over just about anything else...How sad! People live their lives forgetting that ALL things they receive originate from the same supplier...Yah!

In addition, it seems today that it doesn't enter the minds of most to give thanks for all the things they do have. Instead, most are usually complaining about the things they don't have! Most live life believing that all things are generated through the actions of the self. It's a selfish trait. They work frittering their life away focused on financial gain, obtaining things for the sole purpose of a ranking, to distinguish themselves from among the masses. They convince themselves that the more stuff they possess, the better off their lives will be... rarely giving Godly thanks for any bit of it.

There is nothing wrong with working hard, obtaining nice things and enjoying them. But when we omit giving thanks, we become oblivious to how we got them in the first place.

Enjoying the "gift" of your works is verified in Eccleciastes 3:13: And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God. It is His gift.

Turning a few chapters ahead we read... Eccleciastes 5:19, 20: Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; **this is the gift of God.** For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because God answereth him in the joy of his heart.

It is **His gift**...the gift of being able to labor for your portion...and rejoice. It is pleasing to Yah to supply these things that you "need," your portion, your allotment, not necessarily what you "want." He provides the power, meaning the permission to nourish yourself on what He has supplied while not being profligate with what's been given, especially not being greedy. It fills His heart with joy to see that one has shared with others...**His gift.**

Remember, be thankful for all that you have as stated in 1 Tim 4:4,5,6: For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, **If** it be received with <u>thanksgiving</u>: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. **If** thou put the brethren in <u>remembrance</u> of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

It is imperative to be an example with others to share your allotment which has been presented to you by Him. It is His gift! 9

Let's go to Matthew 6:25-33, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or,

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. *Oh!..the things people forget about! Food and clothing. These too are His gifts. He is the supplier. Referencing verse 30:*

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the **oven**, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

At this point, I'd like to point out the word "oven." The word oven...#2823. klibanov klibanos, klib'-an-os, of uncertain derivation; an earthen pot used for baking in. The word "derivation" means the obtaining or developing of something from a source or origin.

All people can undoubtedly see that despite that much of the face of the land today is covered in grass (meaning "garden," pasture, herbage or vegetation, blade, grass, hay) it never correlates to being **His gift.** He tells us that tomorrow this symbolic grass will be burned up in the oven. For those not realizing that Yah is the source...the origin of all things, the unfaithful "grass" will indeed be cast out.

This symbolism is confirmed again in verse 33. That in life, you must strive first to live righteously and through faith be worthy to enter the kingdom of God. In doing so, He shall provide the food and the clothing to you allowing your survival, avoiding being burned up! It is **His gift**.

Another thing many people in the world forget to realize is how all these things covering the earth ever came to be. For instance, how impossible for growth or any life type to exist without the simplest, sustaining gifted things such as the sun and rain as affirmed in Genesis and then again in Leviticus.

Genesis 27:28: Therefore God give thee of the <u>dew of heaven</u>, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine. Leviticus 26:4,5: Then I will give you <u>rain</u> in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. 5 And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.

Without the sun and rain working upon the land throughout these fruitful seasons, there would be no possible way to exist. It states in Isaiah 30:23: Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous: in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures. These also are **His gifts!**

By pointing out just these few simple things, I'm hopeful that we can see that it is actually all things... Each and every thing... that is from Him.

1 Tim 6:17 (*depicting ALL Things*): Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly **all** things to enjoy; *And now in* Psalms 34:10: The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

The word Lions: Hebrew #3715 kef-eer' from 3722; a village (as covered in by walls) also a young lion (perhaps as covered with a mane):--(young). Perhaps another way to think of this word "village" is to describe a vast population of very young, as in naïve

people (closed in by the walls of the world). Naïve meaning showing a lack of experience, wisdom or judgment...hence, one with little or no perspective.

Let's be realistic...We all live in a world mostly made up of young lions; people void of understanding, actively complaining about their suffering, emphasizing what they <u>don't</u> have while not appreciating what they <u>DO</u> have, forgetting to appreciate the origin of all things that compose our life. When one gives credence to a Godly creation, one gains a value perspective as to what is crucial in living—a realization found in those who seek the Lord and now want materially for nothing! This is **His gift!** It's showing that those that will not waiver will receive the gift of all His blessings.

James1:17: **Every** good gift and **every** perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. *To be Christ-like is to imitate Yahshua - To be a light to others, showing no darkened reflections.* **You must stand with no shadow of unrighteousness.**

And in 2 Peter 1:3,4: According as his divine power hath given unto us **all** things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath **called us** to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

"Called us" His church! Called each and every one of us...to His glory and His virtue with the promise to partake of a divine nature BECAUSE we turned away from the ways of the world. So we do have confirmation that the gifts we receive are all dispensed according to His will.

Two examples of this confirmation are found in Eccleciastes 2:26: For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit. Also in 1 Corinthians 7:7: For I would that all men were even as I myself. But **every man hath his proper gift of God,** one after this manner, and another after that.

The receiving only comes to those Christ-like! He gives EVERY man the ability to be just that! It's solely up to the individual to do so.....or to choose not to! This is **His gift**...an unwrapped gift, a visible gift! He shows it to us...it's up to us to show Him we want to see it...and indeed receive it!

Friends and family are observing us and more often than not have long begun to wonder just how good are these so called gifts that we as members of our small church are receiving? My answer is shown in Numbers 14:8: If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

Well Brethren...It doesn't come much sweeter than that now does it? And what about the cost? What does Yah charge us in order for Him to give us these gifts? The answer is in

Romans. He gives them freely. Romans 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?

It's what we do with His gifts...that's His real concern!! A simple illustration follows detailing what you are to do with the "gifts" He has specially wrapped up just for us as illustrated in Matthew 25:15-30:

And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Take a moment to grade yourself in this lesson...

Do you take what has been given to you and share with others open heartedly?

Do you walk this walk with zeal?

Do you feel that it's better to keep what you've received all to yourself?

Up to now, I've been describing both temporal and spiritual gifts: how they're obtained and what you should be doing with them.

Acknowledging Spiritual Gifts

Psalms 4:7: Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and their wine increased.

Have the love of Yah in your heart!

Remember...We've covered the fact that the physical increases He has given us are abundant. What we carry in our heart is what He is truly interested in...and our actions show Him what's in our hearts!

Psalms 21:2: Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. Selah.

How do we show our acknowledgment?

Answer: Speak what He has commanded...Shine our lights! Even at the cost of humility and embarrassment...Shine His love! Acknowledge **His gift** to show that ALL men can receive this gift through Yahshua. Ephesians 4 speaks of these active requirements for the called...Verses 7 and 8 show that it's Yahshua who covered, and now covers your sins.

This is **His gift!** Ephesians 4:1-16: I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But unto **every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.** 8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and **gave gifts unto men.** (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

In verse 7, we see that grace is given. Live with the fullness of Yahshua in you and you shall receive this precious gift. And also in John 6:27: Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

Work hard not for the physical things that spoil which you cannot take with you but instead work hard for the increase of His Spirit within you that will always remain with you... forever! This is His gift.

Throughout all of our studies, we continue to learn more and more about His spirit. His spirit that He instills inside of us. These are **His spiritual gifts** to us:

Romans 12:6-8: Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

Here the most prevalent spiritual gifts are listed: Prophesying, Serving, Teaching, Encouraging, Giving, Leadership and Mercy.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 & 28: Now there are <u>diversities of gifts</u>, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the **word of wisdom**; to another the **word of knowledge** by the same Spirit; To another **faith** by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of **healing** by the same Spirit; To another the working of **miracles**; to another **prophecy**; to another **discerning of spirits**; to another **divers kinds of tongues**; to another the **interpretation of tongues**:

But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then **gifts of healings**, **helps**, **governments**, **diversities of tongues**.

In verses 4-11 we see a great multitude of gifts: Word of Wisdom, Word of Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miraculous Powers, Prophesy, the Distinguishing between Spirits, Speaking in Tongues and the Interpretation of Tongues. Included in verse 28 are the Healings, and the Helps. These are all **His gifts!**

During our walk through studies, readings and just living our life, it becomes very obvious that all these gifts flow from Him. He keeps us in His favor...But remember, ONLY if you or I walk upright!

OTHER GIFTS

I'd also like to quickly point out some other gifts you may be interested in receiving: (Only if you are active spiritually in holding up to your end)

<u>PEACE:</u> Psalms 29:11: The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

<u>STRENGTH and POWER:</u> Psalms 68:35: O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

Let us never forget where that power comes from: Phillipians 4:13: I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

<u>REST:</u> Matthew 11:28: Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Ex 33:14: And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

<u>WISDOM:</u> James 1:5: If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

<u>RIGHTEOUSNESS</u>: Romans 5:16 & 17: And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the <u>gift of righteousness</u> shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. As stated earlier, this gift and all the others are given only <u>if we</u> are walking uprightly... You must die of yourself and live in oneness with Him. Only then do we become worthy to receive His gift of grace:

<u>GRACE</u> (Again, as we all know – The unmerited pardon...His pardon)
Psalms 84:11: For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

And how about this gift? A NEW HEART: Ezekiel 11:19: And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: and 11:20 (the small price for this miraculous cardiac alteration) That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

You must walk uprightly!! Now with grace and a new heart comes yet another gift: Notice...Each one builds incrementally upon the last, making us better than we were before!

<u>FAITH</u> (The "Action of Your Belief"): Ephesians 2:8: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the **gift of God:** Your actions, your works measured

by your fruit. So, show your fruits. Be a light! Remember the talents in Matthew 25? There's no profit in keeping your gifts only for yourself.

1 Peter 4:10: As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Our mission is to light up the path for others to walk on. Be an example...Lead by example! We're able to do this because He gave us the gift of the <u>Breath of Life</u>.

<u>LIFE ITSELF</u>: Isaiah 42:5: Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

I'm hopeful that throughout this study we can now undeniably know that everything we have or have had is given from Him. ALL things! Know that these gifts and this life we live with today are indeed priceless, all given to us from Him. But this does not remotely compare to the greatest gift He has so gracefully wrapped for us:

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the **gift of God is eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Yahshua's life our Eternal Life*.

ETERNAL LIFE:

... meaning of course:

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.**

His Greatest Gift we can EVER receive? - EVERLASTING LIFE!

Don't waiver...Have Faith The <u>Action</u> of Your Belief

Selah

All Scriptures KJV unless otherwise noted

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