

The Gift: 1 John 4:1-6

2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world."

I. The gift: 1 John 4:1

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

—————700 years—————

Matthew 1:23

Behold, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel" (which means, "God with us").

II. The mystery of the gift: 1 John 4:2-3

Acts 2:36

Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.

Jesus was fully man and fully God.

To replace our imperfections we need a perfect God.

The writers of the Bible told us everything about their characters, including their sin. In the entire Bible there is no record of Jesus ever sinning.

1 Peter 2:24

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

III. The intentions of the gift: 1 John 4:4-6

The gift was to make life easier.

Ephesians 3:6

6 That the Gentiles are fellow heirs, and fellow members of the body, and fellow sharers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, 7 of which I became a servant, according to the gift of God's grace given to me, according to the working of his power.

The gift was intended to unite us.

1 John 5:1

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. 2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. 3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Let us be united in Christ