

GOD IS A GIVER OF GIFTS

James 1:16-18

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

II Corinthians 9:15

¹⁵ Thanks *be* to God for His indescribable gift!

I. Do Not Be Deceived v16

Eve said in Genesis 3:13 "The serpent deceived me."

I Peter 5:8

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because^[a] your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Jesus said I am the way, the truth and the life **John 14:6**

Jesus called the devil a liar in **John 8:44** "a liar and the father of lies"

Do not be deceived. The devil is the source of all evil and God is the source of all good.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose

II. Every Good and Perfect Gift Comes From God v.17

God is perfect therefore His gifts are perfect.
He delights in giving gifts to those who trust Him.

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct^[a] your paths.

James 1:4

⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Father of Lights-
These gifts are discernible
They manifest light

Matthew 5:14

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

III. There are No Variables With God v.17

Hebrews 13:5 I will never leave you nor forsake you.
He is one who "sticks closer than a brother" Proverbs 18:24.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

He is constant.

God does not play hide and seek with us. When you met Him once you can meet again.

In this world system the only thing constant is change. God never changes.

IV. God Pursues Us v18.

Romans 5:8

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:20

²⁰ *But Isaiah is very bold and says:*

*" I was found by those who did not seek Me;
I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me*

He loved us while we were yet His enemies.

John 1:11-13

¹¹ He came to His own,^[a] and His own^[b] did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

James is writing to Jewish Christians. They understood the requirements of the tithe and first fruits offerings. They belonged to God.

We, the believers in Jesus Christ here become the first fruits offering that God gives to an unbelieving world.

Jeremiah 29: 11-13

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Through faith in Jesus Christ, we have become eternal creations which shall never pass away. The earth and heaven and the universe will pass away; they are only temporary. But we shall never pass away. Death has no more dominion over us – we have life eternal through Jesus Christ Our Lord. AMEN!

GIVE THANKS

GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART,

GIVE THANKS TO THE HOLY ONE,

GIVE THANK BECAUSE HE'S GIVEN,

JESUS CHRIST, HIS SON

(REPEAT)

AND NOW LET THE WEAK SAY

"I AM STRONG," LET THE POOR SAY

"I AM RICH," BECAUSE OF WHAT THE

LORD HAS DONE FOR US.

(REPEAT)

...GIVE THANKS!!!!