

Then the angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2:10-11

The Gift of Christmas

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And almost all of that will be charged to a credit card.

The Gift of Christmas

Top Gifts for 2016

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Virtual Reality Headset 3D Glasses

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Virtual Reality Headset 3D Glasses
Infusion Water Bottles

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Cards Against Humanity (game)

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Sony Playstation 4 Slim

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Smartphone Controlled Airplane

The Gift of Christmas

What is the best gift you ever received for Christmas?

The Gift of Christmas

What is the best gift you ever received for Christmas?

Was it the best because of the thought behind it?

The Gift of Christmas

What is the best gift you ever received for Christmas?

Was it the best because of the thought behind it?

Was it the best because of its costs?

The Gift of Christmas

What is the best gift you ever received for Christmas?

Was it the best because of the thought behind it?

Was it the best because of its costs?

Where is that gift now?

The Cost of Christmas

The Cost of Christmas

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God.

Philippians 2:5-6

The Cost of Christmas

Let this mind (understanding, how you feel and think, what you seek and strive for) be in you (the one receiving the gift) which was also in Christ Jesus (meaning we are to have the mind of Christ), who, being in the form (*morphé* - signifying what truly and fully expresses the being which underlies it) of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal (alike in quantity, quality, dignity) with God (or, did not cling to His equality with God),

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The Cost of Christmas

but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:7

The Cost of Christmas

but (He) made Himself of no reputation (to make empty, void), taking the form (*morphé* - signifying what truly and fully expresses the being which underlies it) of a bondservant (*doúlos* – slave, one who is in a permanent relationship of servitude to another, his will being altogether consumed in the will of another), and coming (to become, to be made, to come into existence) in the likeness (shape, resemblance, similitude, equality or identity) of men.

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Philippians 2:7

The Cost of Christmas

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 2:8

The Cost of Christmas

And being found (to come upon, to find by inquiry, examination, thought, scrutiny) in appearance (fashion, external form, style) as a man, He (Christ) humbled (to make low, to bring low, to abase) Himself and became obedient (to submit to authority) to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

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Philippians 2:8

The Cost of Christmas

Kenneth Weust Expanded Translation

Philippians 2:5-8

The Cost of Christmas

[This is the mind] which is also in Christ Jesus, who has always been and at present continues to subsist in that mode of being in which He gives outward expression of His essential nature, that of absolute deity, which expression comes from and is truly representative of His inner being [that of absolute deity],

The Cost of Christmas

and who did not after weighing the facts, consider it a treasure to be clutched and retained at all hazards, this being on an equality with deity [in the expression of the divine essence], but himself He emptied, himself He made void, having taken the outward expression of a bonds slave,

The Cost of Christmas

which expression comes from and is truly representative of His nature [as deity], entering into a new state of existence, that of mankind.

And being found to be in outward guise as man, He stooped very low, having become obedient [to God the Father] to the extent of death, even such a death as that upon a cross.

The Cost of Christmas

The Cost of Christmas

What Our Christmas Gift Cost Christ

The Cost of Christmas

His Heavenly Glory

The Cost of Christmas

His Heavenly Glory

As C.S. Lewis put it, He dove into the water and went all the way down through the black cold water to the slime and ooze of this world.

The Cost of Christmas

His Independent Authority

The Cost of Christmas

His Independent Authority

He completely submitted Himself to the will of the Father and learned to be a servant. He was obedient, and we see that illustrated when He said in the garden, "Not as I will, but as You will" (Matt. 26:39).

"He learned obedience by the things which He suffered" (Heb. 5:8), and affirmed that He came to do His Father's will (John 5:30) – and not His own.

The Cost of Christmas

The Voluntary Use of His Attributes

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He set aside the prerogatives of His deity – the voluntary use of His attributes. He did not stop being omniscient or omnipresent or omnipotent.

The Cost of Christmas

The Voluntary Use of His Attributes

He set aside the prerogatives of His deity – the voluntary use of His attributes. He did not stop being omniscient or omnipresent or omnipotent.

He simply chose not to live in them.

The Cost of Christmas

His Eternal Riches

The Cost of Christmas

His Eternal Riches

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though He was rich, yet for your sakes (what)
He became poor, (why) that you through His
poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

The Cost of Christmas

For a time, His Relationship with the Father

The Cost of Christmas

For a time, His Relationship with the Father

God "made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us (on our behalf)" (2 Cor. 5:21).

The Cost of Christmas

For a time, His Relationship with the Father

God "made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us (on our behalf)" (2 Cor. 5:21).

As a result our Lord cried out on the cross,
"My God, My God, why have
You forsaken Me?"

The Cost of Christmas

Though Christ renounced all those privileges, He
never ceased to be God.

The Cost of Christmas

Though Christ renounced all those privileges, He never ceased to be God.

At any moment He could have crushed and destroyed His enemies, but He didn't.

The Cost of Christmas

Though Christ renounced all those privileges, He never ceased to be God.

At any moment He could have crushed and destroyed His enemies, but He didn't.

Instead, He voluntarily emptied Himself.

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This is some of what your Christmas gift cost Christ.

The Cost of Christmas

The Cost of Christmas

What gift are you giving back to Christ today?

The Cost of Christmas

What gift are you giving back to Christ today?
And what did your gift cost you?

