

The Best Present Ever  
Christmas 2006

**Intro:**

Let me make a statement about Christmas.

Christmas is all about presents.

Since the end of October we have been bombarded with TV commercials trying to sell us everything and anything for presents for Christmas.

From Barbie dolls to foot massages.

From skate boards to video games.

From basket balls to underwear.

From board games to Jewellery.

You name it they try to get us to buy it as a present for Christmas.

What about these that I read the other day.

Presents for the people you can't think to buy for.

You can buy a \$2.6 million dollar space trip.

This is a package that includes, medical assessments, training, a ride on the Virgin Galactic spaceship and a 4 day after party at Virgin boss Sir Richard Bransons Carabean island retreat.

This is one of many packages and presents are offered by Neiman Marcus in its Christmas Catalogue.

In it there is also the \$134 000 themed water park for your back yard,

For the pet owner there is an Italian handcrafted pet home which comes complete with a leather armchair for the poor pooch or kitty.

Amazing hey, presents,

Now excessive or over the top presents are not just for the secular world.

Christians marketers have jumped on the band wagon.

At a particular store recently these were the top few Christian Christmas presents for you to buy.

- 1) Bobble Head Jesus that you can stick on your dash board of your car.
- 2) Weeping Santa.
- 3) 47 foot high blow up bouncy church
- 4) Nativity Bears
- 5) Crucifix boxer shorts
- 6) Biblical pyjamas
- 7) Frisbee of faith, tract on the inside
- 8) Jesus ashtray.
- 9) Glowing crucifix mobile phone cover.
- 10) Glowing grave, whole lot of LED lights solar powered, and you can change the text that is on the grave. (Its dark down here, I can see you)

Presents presents everywhere, you have probably opened many today.

So many presents some are good, some are weird and some are just plain bad.

We went out on the streets to find out what were peoples Best Christmas present and what was their worst.

### **VOX POP**

Some interesting ones their.

What makes a present a good present?

I reckon when it is given by someone who knows you intimately.

Someone who knows your needs,

Some one who knows your desires,

Someone has thought carefully about you and what you need,

That is what makes a great present.

Well there is someone who does you know you even better than you know yourself.

Someone who knows your innermost desires, passions and needs.

There is someone who has given you a present that is the best present in all eternity.

And it was mentioned in all those Bible readings that we had earlier.

Did you pick it.

God gave us Jesus.

Is 9 to us a son is given.

That son is Jesus.

God who knows you more intimately than you know yourself has seen you and feels your pain, feels your joy, knows your desires and passions.

Who knows your greatest need.

Says here I give you my son.

For God so loved the world, he gave us his son - Jesus.

That is why Christmas is all about presents.

But its about one present. Jesus.

You see Jesus is God's gift to us because it addresses our greatest need, and that is Jesus deals with our imperfection, Jesus deals with our loss of innocence.

We all know we are not perfect. And if we are honest with ourselves we know that we do not live up to God's standard, which is perfection.

We fall short, and Rom 6 states that because of that we deserve death.

And that haunts us.

We look around and we see how we destroy relationships, how we contribute to breakdowns in relationships, how we contribute to the woes of the world.

A news paper in the late 18'00s put out a ad for people to write an essay on the what is wrong with the world.

And one bloke wrote back a one word answer. ME.

We are the problem and the only way to fix the problem is to deal with the cause, and that is our sin.

And the one person to deal with that is Jesus.

Jesus death on the cross pays the penalty for yours and my sin and makes us innocent again.

**(Play Video)**

**Judge coming after sentencing a criminal comes down from his seat and says I will take your punishment.**

The innocent for the guilty.

Jesus for you.

Which means we are forgiven and that we now have eternal life.

John 3:16 Whoever believes in him will not die but have eternal life.

What that means is life now that has reason, meaning, purpose, direction.

Life for eternity in perfection where all that is wrong with this world will be removed and perfect love, perfect relationships will be ours.

That is why Christmas is all about presents, well actually all about one present.

Jesus.

**(Dave yells out " Have you opened my present yet"**

**Paul - No**

**Dave - "We'll if you don't open it then it won't be yours, it will be a waisted present."**

**Paul says okay and opens up the present.)**

God has given you a present that you need, a present that your heart really desires, a gift that God sorted out to be exactly what you needed.

Don't leave it wrapped up.

You need to take Jesus out of the corner, that corner where you have placed for the right time, and make him yours today.

All the benefits of God's gift to you are not yours till you accept it and take it and give your life to Him.

Please take God's gift today, don't leave it, you never know when you will meet God face to face and at that point it will be far better if he looks at you and says welcome home.

Than I'm sorry I do not know you.

Unwrap Jesus today.

The Best Present Ever.

Then it will be truly a Happy Happy day