

Last night, I talked about the gift. The gift that God has given us in Jesus Christ. The gift, the day themselves are part they share with us each and to have today. It's a wonderful thing. It's a wonderful, wonderful thing that God has given them, themselves to be a part of our lives to teach us how to be responsible, how to live a life that's reflective of that love and sacrifice that they made. And that gift is for everyone.

We forget about that. So often, we forget that the gift isn't just for us. It isn't just for Christians. It's for Jews. It's for Gentiles. It's for Muslims. It's for everyone because it's how we should treat each other. That's why God came to be among us. They made so many promises and so many covenants with others. Others throughout history. Things that they do, things that we see, we see throughout the Bible over and over. But this time the Covenant is different.

This time, God came to be a part of us. They came to us as a child. Why would God come to us as a child? So many times in the Bible we see God coming, like when he went to Jacob as a spirit as a being. As a human, you see the angels coming down, walking among us as regular people, coming to us as animals, coming to us in any way that they can. And this time God chose to come to us as a child as an infant being completely vulnerable to everyone around them. Being completely vulnerable to the elements, to whatever could happen, and let it happen.

They lived among us. They lived as us. It wasn't getting through to everyone. He wasn't getting through to everyone, but simply coming as a child, giving that opportunity for instant love, for instant peace was a beautiful thing.

They also fulfilled the prophecies by coming to us as a child, to build the prophecies of Isaiah, of Daniel, of Jeremiah, Ezekiel. Everyone, showing that they can always be here. They know what we're going through. They know and understand, and that gift isn't just from them to us. But it was a gift from us to them as well.

There's no better way to understand somebody other than living in their shoes. They got the gift of giving us love, but they also got the gift of being with us and receiving that love. We feel so much different when we're with people. We feel so much different when we're with people that we love, and they love us back.

It's a great thing, being together and sharing that time if they're friends, if they're family, if anything else, if they're strangers, when you have that love, that understanding that is written in your heart by God. It's a beautiful thing to share, and God got to hear it, and got to see it, and got to feel it as one of us. Not simply being above us, but being a part of us, which makes their sacrifice so much greater because they can understand things that we don't.

But one day we'll get to because of that promise, because of that Covenant that they made with us. Because of that Covenant that they made with us, like coming and living among us as Jesus Christ. It's a wonderful, wonderful thing.

Let us pray.