7. It must be RECEIVED TO POSSESS. YOU must receive it or it is of no value to you at all! John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.

8. It is, however, TIME-SENSITIVE. There will come a time when you will **not** be able to accept it. Heb 9.27 says **as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.** Notice the words "after this" state *a judgment is the only thing men can expect if they reject this amazing gift.* WHY WOULD ANYONE REJECT SUCH AN AMAZING GIFT?

Wow! What else is there to say? Accept God's Gift of Salvation today by receiving it from Jesus Christ. All you do is *confess and believe then call* and it's yours! **Romans 10:9** ... If you <u>confess</u> with your mouth *the Lord* Jesus <u>and believe</u> in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, <u>you</u> <u>will be saved</u>. ... 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." Tell us you have so we can help you with this *Most Amazing Gift Ever Given*.

Just contact me.

860-528-7205 or see <u>www.APrayerNotebook.net</u> 12/10/2011

- C. Pat Lanyon

NT References to 'the gift of God' 1.

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew *the gift of God*, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." 2

<u>Ac 8:20</u> But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that *the gift of God* could be purchased with money!"

3.

<u>Rom 6:23</u> For the wages of sin is death, but *the gift of God* is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4.

<u>Eph 2:8</u> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is *the gift of God*,

5.

2Tim 1:6 **Therefore I remind you to stir** up *the gift of God* which is in you through the laying on of my hands. The Most Amazing Gift Ever Given



Everyone loves receiving a gift. The greatest thing about a gift is that you get it free of cost or obligation. To the giver, however there is a price to pay. When I give I loose the value I paid to obtain the gift I gave to you. This is true with any gift unless you receive it as a gift from someone else. But ultimately every gift has a cost to produce it in the first place. What if I told you I have a gift I possess to

What If I told you I have a gift I possess to give away to you that it's value is so immense it cannot be estimated?

What if this gift could endure *forever*? That's right! No one you nor I know can explain what *forever* is like in a literal way because we live in a dimension restricted to time. This gift goes beyond time!

What if I told you I still possess everything I just gave to you?

What if, in giving this gift to you, *it increases its value* to **both you and me** by my giving it away to you?

What if it's value to both you and me *continues* to grow every time we give it away to someone else?

If this sounds incredible, *read on, there's much more!*

What if this gift could be given to anyone who would be willing to accept it, NO ONE IS EXCLUDED?

What if this gift can be multiplied with human activity and be made even more valuable after your receiving it?

NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD EVER REJECT THIS KIND OF A GIFT WOULD THEY? Please read on!

Every What if question above is true!

What if you could only receive this gift the first day you heard about it?

You must be asking what could this *most astounding gift* be?

Quite simply it is...

The Gift of God

1. It is a GIFT. The Bible clearly reveals this amazing gift. In John 4:10 *(italics added)* Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew *the gift of God*, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

The "living water" He was referring to was Himself, and by offering Himself up *once* for all mankind to pay their debt of sin to God, no further price is required. It is thus "a gift!" 2. It is PRICELESS. It cannot be purchased with money. We can't boast that we bought it! This *gift of God* can only be received unconditionally. IT IS A GIFT!

<u>Rom 6:23</u> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. It is called a "gift" over and over in the Bible. If purchased for a price the word reward would be required.

Eph. 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is *the gift of God*, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

3. It is ETERNAL.

We see next that this gift lasts *forever*, and it is not just "living water." The only way we can understand *eternal* is to say it never ends (we all know we're going to die one day very likely). Unending seems like a long time but I can't experience it with a reality sensation. Only after I've lived say 20 or 30 years do I *begin* to understand everlasting. And to get something free that lasts forever? It's inconceivable!

4. It is PRESERVING.

The Samaritan woman *received* this gift from Jesus. It immediately changed her life. If she wanted to continue living in sin, she certainly wouldn't have gone to retell others about her lifestyle. The Bible tells us **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.** (2 Cor. 5:17) It cannot be taken away either. John 10:28 says I give them **eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.** It is eternal and would not be eternal if it could be removed.

5. It is REPRODUCING.

She then went home to give it to others who knew her. Some received it because of the words she spoke. Many others went to hear for themselves, and then received the gift directly from Jesus (v. 41) and no one paid a thing to receive it from Him. 2 Tim 1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. This can only mean it enables you to use it more than when you first received it.

6. It is INCREASING, GOOD & COMPLETE.

Not only can I give it away, but *it's value multiplies* when I give it away. You must be asking, 'How can that possibly be?' First look what James 1:17 says about gifts from God: **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.** Gifts from God are both **good** and **perfect** (meaning, 'complete')and the verse goes on to say literally *unchanging*.

This gift grows in value *spiritually*: 1 Th 1:5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also *in power*, and *in the Holy Spirit* and *in much assurance*, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. 6 ¶ And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 "so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe."

When the Thessalonians heard, they believed him. Then they shared it, as he did with them, with others. Other countries received it. Paul benefitted first, they second, and Macedonia and Acahia third. Philippian believers were his "crown:" Phil. 4:1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved."