

DECEMBER 26

“ETERNAL LIFE IS A GIFT, NOT A LOAN.”

READ

1 Corinthians 1:18-25, and 2:13-15

Christians celebrate the miracle of all miracles. God Almighty can recreate dead sinners and turn them into living saints, giving them spiritual eyes and an understanding about deep and unknown things. Salvation came first to the Jews, then to the Gentiles. Jesus was destined for the fall and rising of many. Jesus is offensive, and the Gospel message stirs things up. There is no way to avoid responding to Jesus. Jesus will either bring joy to your soul or agitation to your heart. He will make you enjoy getting up every morning, or you will hate to see the sun rise. Either you'll bless Him or curse Him. Jesus will raise you up or cause you to stumble; no one can be neutral. All glory belongs to Him. He has done it all and we have done nothing. God chose you and chose a well-designed path for you, orchestrated full of divine appointments. Natural man cannot understand the things of God, so the Holy Spirit must quicken you to them. He gives you eternal life. He does not loan it — it is a gift.

PRAY

What a beautiful name, Jesus! There is no other name by which we must be saved, and one day at the name of Jesus, every knee will bow. You warned us that in the last days we would be hated for Your name's sake. I will not be intimidated. I will not be ashamed. I will not be silenced. I will lift high the name of Jesus!

From December 23, 2012