

Measuring Christ's Gift

Ephesians 4:4-8, and v7

v4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the **one hope that belongs to your call**— v5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, v6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in you all.

v7 **But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.** v8 Therefore it says: “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men”.

“But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift”, ~Ephesians 4:7, NKJV.

A translation of the Greek grammar of verse 7 can be rendered:

“But that which affords joy (grace) was given/was bought forth to each and every one of us (Paul to his converts, trainees and divinity-followers; and by extension: to us! **“each and every one”** is two adjectives, describing “us”) **after-against** (a preposition) **the measure** (a determiner and accusative noun) **of Christ's gratuity** (a genative phrase).

So God! “..grace was bought forth **by You** to each and every one **of us after-against/according to! the measure of Christ's gift/gratuity**

“But that which affords joy was given to each and every one of us after-against/according to the measure of Christ's gift/gratuity”, ~4:7, a “me translation”!

Well, how do we “measure” Christ's gift to us?

“according to the measure of Christ's **gift**”, means **a gratuity** and a gratuity is **the wage given to an employee at the termination of a contract.**

You see! **“at the termination of a contract”** describes this “measure”: **“after-against/according to! the measure of Christ's gift! - grace was given to us.**

So, **after** Christ's earth-life was finished, we can see what is the measure, because God's grace is given to us according to this measure: and what is the best place to see the effect of the gift of Jesus' life: **Isaiah 53:4-6 & 10.**

The Body of Christ, despised and rejected of men!

“Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted ~53:4.

Christ’s Body, as intended to be “used” for us, by God:

But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed ~53:5.

Our response at this horrific sight!

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and **the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all**”, ~v6: ~Isaiah 53:4-6.

And, the desire of God for us! ~v10a

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief/made Him sick ~English Standard Version (ESV)
Even though it pleased Yahweh
to crush him with disease ~The Passion Translation (TPT).

So, **both at the beginning and at the ending** of Jesus’ life on earth (the measure!), His Father set-in-motion this “gratuitous contract and covenant” by saying at Jesus’s baptism; “this is My Son in whom I-Am well pleased. Hear Him!” ~cf. Luke 3:22;

And the “contractual and **covenantal Gift**” **which is Jesus himself**, replied to His Father’s **covenantal proposal** of **Isaiah 53:5**, by saying ““Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done”, ~cf. Luke 22:42.

The “measure” of Christ’s gratuitous gift to us and for us, is stupendous and isn’t limited to this core character of Him giving His life for us, but this is our core-Life’s-source: that

“he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; the chastisement that has brought us peace was upon Him, and with his wounds we are healed”.

Therefore, our Father in heaven “measuring out” the gift of His Son’s life and it’s effects for us, is something to behold! simply because His whole life and it’s past, present and future investment in us, is **a gratuity, a gift freely given by agreement**; not our agreement with Him, but by His Father’s agreement with Him, for us!

Therefore, it cannot change and we can trust His life’s substitution for our woundedness, for our crushing disappointments, for our blaming ourselves and for our restlessness. For His body carried all of our dis-eases away ~see 53:6