

1 God's Gadgets

2 Gift Ideas for Christmas

- This year, it appears that good ole yankee ingenuity has once again out done itself.
- It shouldn't be any problem finding that special someone that unique gift that will be sure to please.
- In fact, Ian Paul, writer for PC World Magazine, has written an article entitled, "19 Weird but Real Gadgets and Gizmos."

3 Real Gadgets & Gizmos

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11 Observations

- What do all these gift ideas have in common?
- So, why are these gadgets and gizmos called weird?
- Because they combine things together that don't ordinarily fit together well.
- A few years ago, people thought that the term "personal computer" was weird.
- Can you think of any thing else that is weird?
- QUESTION: Is God weird?

12 The Weirdness of God

- Do the following terms connect well together?
 - Judgment and Grace
 - Faith and Deeds
 - Love and Wrath
- Usually we see these terms as opposites and opposed to each other.
- Instead of seeing them as one side to a coin, we pick and choose the term that best suits us while ignoring the other.
- However, to arrive at the real truth we must reconcile both terms together without destroying the integrity of the other.

13 Judgment & Grace

- Isaiah 1 – reveals God’s indictment of the people of Judah and Jerusalem, revealing that God’s judgment is upon them because of their idolatry and because of their failure to “do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, [and] plead for the widow” (1:17).
- God offers an ultimatum: “If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat of the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword” (1:19–20). When they refuse, God promises to “pour out my wrath” and will turn his “hand” against them (1:24–25).
- And yet, in the midst of judgment, God says, “Zion shall be redeemed by justice, and those in her who repent, by righteousness” (1:27).

14 Judgment & Grace

- Judgment and grace aren’t opposites but are tied to one another.
- God’s judgment is designed to be corrective, and God’s grace is designed to be redemptive and restorative.

15 Faith & Deeds

- For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. (Eph 2:8–9 NIV)
- You see that his [Abraham’s] faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. (James 2:22 NIV)
- You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone. (James 2:24 NIV)

16 Faith & Deeds

- So is faith and deeds opposed to each other? No they compliment each other.
- Faith is what we believe about God and deeds are what we do about it.
- BTW – The Epistle to the Galatians is not about Christians who are trying to merit God’s grace by deeds. They were instead being influenced by Judaizers (Jewish Christians) who insisted that Gentile Christians were obligated to follow the Mosaic Law, be circumcised and observe Jewish customs.

17 Love & Wrath

- God is love (1 John 4:8 NIV)
- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16 NIV)
- The arrogant cannot stand in your presence; you hate all who do wrong. You destroy those who tell lies; bloodthirsty and deceitful men the LORD abhors. (Psa 5:5–6 NIV)
- The LORD examines the righteous, but the wicked and those who love violence his soul hates. (Psa 11:5 NIV)

- Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. (Eph 5:6 NIV)

18 Love & Wrath

- Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him. (John 3:36 NIV)
- I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. (Acts 20:21 NIV)
- God loves the world and he has provided mercy and grace to those who repent. But those who reject His word and continue in their sin will continue to suffer His wrath.

19 Putting God in a Box

- We put God in a box when we limit our understanding of Him by picking and choosing what we like about Him.
- God is a person and not a machine.
- He is mult-functional and requires us to search the scriptures and walk with Him to know Him.
- In other words, God is weird and we have to get weird to appreciate the balance and integrity that is His.

20 Opening our Eyes

- Often our failure to see and to embrace the vision of God is a failure of our own imagination.
- We fail to see the connection between what seems contradictory emphasis and parts of the truth.
- However, if we examine the scriptures and ask the Holy Spirit for insight and wisdom, we will not be disappointed.
- God still reveals himself to those who seek the truth.
- Let's keep God out of the box!

21 Peace to Men

- Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:13-14 NIV)