



December 20, 2009

Bigger Is Seldom Better

(Why the best gifts come in small packages)
(SERIES: They Promised Me Chocolate; 09 of 10)
by Dr. David Foster

“...the angel reassured them. ‘Don’t be afraid!’ he said. ‘I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: **You will find a baby** wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.’ Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in highest heaven, and **peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.**”
(Luke 2:10-14 NLT)

The Best Things in Life

Can’t be **contained**.

Can’t be **earned**.

Can’t be **lost**.

The 7 Best Gifts of Christmas

The gift of **election**.

“And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?”
(Rom 8:28-31 NIV)

The gift of **inner peace**.

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27 NIV)

The gift of **meaningful work**.

“And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.” (Ecc 3:13 NLT)

The gift of **laughter**

“A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” (Proverbs 17:22 NIV)

The gift of **fun**.

“Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.” (Neh 8:10 NIV)

The gift of **love**.

“Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.” (1 Corinthians 13:8 NIV)

The gift of **hope**.

“To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse. Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.”
(Psalm 25:1-5 NIV)