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THE GREAT EXCHANGE

Imagine owing a great debt that you cannot pay off. I am sure that you would be stressed over it, and chances are quite embarrassed. The bill collector might even call your house daily and you start not answering the phone because you just don't know how to pay it. Then suppose that someone knew you had that debt and paid it off for you, no strings attached. They did it out of love. Would you appreciate that gift?

Well, such a debt is owed by each of us. It is called a "sin debt". Romans tells us that the payment or wages of that debt is death. In this case it is spiritual death that separates us from God for eternity. The problem is the only way to pay the debt is with sinless blood. Now I can't say anything about you, but as for myself, I couldn't qualify to pay the debt.

The scriptures tell us in Romans 5:8, ***"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*** This means that Jesus was sent for us in our sinful state knowing we couldn't pay the debt of sin. In verse 18 it says, ***"Therefore as by the offence (sin) of one (Adam) judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one (Jesus) the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life."*** Adam's sin nature was passed down to every living human being. Because of this someone had to pay that debt with blood, either we do with our blood, or someone else. But the problem is it has to be sinless blood. Jesus willingly chose to have his innocent blood to be shed to pay for our guilty blood.

In II Corinthians 5:21 it says, ***"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."*** God the Father caused Jesus to become sin to pay for the sins of the world. He paid the price for sin. When we receive Christ as our Savior, our sin debt is paid. All we have to do to receive it is to believe he did it for us and accept the free gift. Once we do that, we are no longer looked upon as unrighteous because we have been made righteous through Jesus Christ.

This is the most precious gift that anyone could ever receive. It truly is the great exchange. If you haven't received this gift, it is not too late to ask God for it now.