

APPRECIATE THE GIVING TREE IN 2023

Galatians 3:13-14



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- When I was a kid, there was a pecan tree in our front yard. It was a true blessing to me.
- I know that many of you are familiar with the book by Shel Silverstein entitled, “The Giving Tree.”
- People have been arguing the pros and cons of it for decades.
- When I read it, I draw a spiritual parallel to the relationship between God and man.

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- Today, however, I want us to focus on the ultimate giving tree, the tree of Calvary.
 - Paul says the word of the cross is the power of God- 1 Cor. 1:18
 - Paul pays tribute to the cross by refusing to boast in anything but it.- Gal. 6:14
 - Paul celebrates that reconciliation and peace have been accomplished by the cross- Col. 1:20

APPRECIATE THE GIVING TREE IN 2023

- The tree of Calvary continues to be the

GRUESOME GIFT

- To think about it causes repulsion and horror. It was violent and sickening.
- Isaiah 53
- Mark 15:24- “And they crucified him..”
- I Peter 2:24

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- The tree of Calvary continues to be the

GRACIOUS GIFT

- The gift that keeps on giving.
- Romans 3:23-25
- Galatians 3:13
- Ephesians 2:12-16
- Colossians 2:14

APPRECIATE THE GIVING TREE IN 2023

- **The tree of Calvary continues to be the**

GUARANTEED GIFT

- **The gift of the cross is available to any who will decide to give themselves to Christ.**
- **Hebrews 7:24-27**
- **It is a gift that will always be offered and will never be discontinued as long as the earth exists. I Jn 1:7.**

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- The tree of Calvary continues to be the

GREATEST GIFT

- The gift wasn't just from God it was God.
- It is the gift of ultimate love
 - John 3:16
 - Romans 5:8
- It was the ultimate victory over Satan- Col. 2:14-15.