


# God's Gift Is Not an Offer

Craig Martin Barnes March 1, 2025

od's gift is a proffer.

A “proffer” is not the same as an “offer”. An offer is merely a *statement of intent*. For example, “I will give you a ticket to Chicago.” It is not a promise (although it *can* take the form of a promise). It can easily be ignored or dropped. A “proffer” is even *greater* than a promise. A proffer is an *act* that places the object (the gift) into the control of the intended recipient, such as placing that train ticket into the recipient's pocket or holding out a match to light a candle. The intended recipient is expected (or even forced), then, to make a decision. He must then take the *initiative* to discard the gift, assuming he does not want it. If he does nothing, he will receive the gift.

When God gave us salvation on the cross, it was a proffer, not an offer. On the cross, God actually took upon *Himself* the consequences for our sin. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:24. Therefore, He does not count our sins against us. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:19. His death was the ratification of His oath to us recorded in Genesis 22:16-18. God's promise (oath) is as good as done because His word has inherently within it the power to create what it says. Genesis 1:3. Yet, God ratified it in substance, *anyway*, through His own death. That is why “Faith is the *substance* of things expected, the *evidence* of things not seen.” Hebrews 1:1.

Cherish the gift. Don't throw it away.