

**Title: “The Bible is a Gift from God to You”**

**Series: Getting Back to the Bible**

## **Introduction:**

<sup>1</sup>The Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford has initiated a program called "Cash Dash." Here's how an ad in The Chicago Tribune described the new program:

The State of Illinois has collected more than \$1 billion worth of lost or abandoned wealth that belongs to millions of Illinois residents. It includes everything from forgotten bank accounts to entire estates that have never reached their rightful owners. The "Cash Dash" program aims to give it all back.

The National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators claims, "Keep in mind that Illinois' unclaimed funds, money, cash, and property are gold mines just waiting to be discovered by their rightful owners." Dan Rutherford added, "[This program] is exciting to me because I want to see these valuable assets returned. I also hope everyone [doesn't] miss out on money or valuable assets the state is holding for them."

As far as I know, God doesn't have any unclaimed riches for you to claim today – that is, if we're talking about material riches. But He does have a gift for you today, and this gift is much better than any gift money could buy.

God has gifted you, and me, and the world, with His Word, the Bible, and He wants us to accept it, embrace it, and enjoy every part of it. Today in our series, “Getting Back to the Bible” we want to define God’s Gift to us so that we might better understand it and its purpose for our lives.

## **1. GOD’S GIFT IS GOD-BREATHED**

### **2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV)**

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<sup>1</sup> Trib Local: Aurora, "Illinois Treasurer Dan Rutherford Completes Successful Cash Dash Event in Aurora" (3-28-12)

**2. GOD'S GIFT IS LIFE-CHANGING**

**John 20:31; 1 Peter 1:23**

**3. GOD'S GIFT IS EASILY UNDERSTOOD**

**Luke 24:45; Psalm 119:130; Matthew 11:25**

**4. GOD'S GIFT IS OUR SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

**Romans 15:4; Jeremiah 15:16; Psalm 119:103, 147; Job 23:12**