

SUBJECT: The Mystery Revealed
SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 3:1 – 9

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you: How that by revelation he made known unto me **the mystery**; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in **the mystery of Christ**) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; **That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel** Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of **the mystery**, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

WHAT IS THE MYSTERY

Ephesians 3:6. That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ by the Gospel.

DEFINITIONS (*Reference: Vine’s Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*)

- **Mystery**

In the New Testament, it denotes not the mysterious, but that which can be made known only by Divine revelation, and made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illumined by His Spirit.

In the ordinary sense, a mystery implies knowledge withheld; its scriptural significant is truly revealed. Hence, the terms especially associated with the subject are “made known,” “manifested,” “revealed,” “preached,” “understand,” and “dispensation.”

- **Revelation**

An uncovering; an act of revealing to view or making known. A disclosure, appearing, manifestation.

MYSTERY AS USED IN EPHESIANS 3:1 – 9

- The Mystery (v3)
- The Mystery of Christ (v4)
- Not Made Known (v5)
- Unsearchable (v8)
- The Fellowship of the Mystery (v9)

REVELATION AS USED IN EPHESIANS 3:1 – 9

- He made known (v3)
- My knowledge (v4)
- Now Revealed (v5)

THE TIMEFRAME OF THE REVEALING OF THE MYSTERY

- Now (v5)
- The dispensation of the grace of God (v2)

PAUL AND THE REVEALED MYSTERY

- How the Mystery was Revealed unto Paul
 - By revelation (v3)
 - By the Spirit (v5)
 - By the gift of the grace of God (vvs 7,8)
- Paul communicates the mystery to others
 - Written by Paul that when we read it, we may understand (v4)
 - Preached ... to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery (v9)

HOW THE MYSTERY IS REVALED TO US

- **Ephesians 1:17, 18.**

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you **the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know** what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

- **1 Corinthians 2:9 – 16**

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ⁰But **God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God ¹For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. ²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; **that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.** Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because **they are spiritually discerned.** But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ

- **2 Corinthians 4:3 – 6**

But if our gospel be hidden it is hidden to them that are lost. In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, **hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge** of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- **Compare with Genesis 1:1 – 3**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And **God said, Let there be light: and there was light.**

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