



The Sacred Secret

By Ken Terry on July 14, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Ephesians 3

The mystery of Christ is the sacred secret the Apostle Paul discusses in our reading today. When I think about the word *mystery*, I think of supernatural occurrences that challenge my finite mind. However, for today, the Apostle Paul is referring to something that was hidden from the saints prior to the church age—the time of our Lord and Savior Jesus, the Christ. Paul tells us in our reading how he learned of this sacred secret, *“by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets”* (Ephesians 3:4-5, NKJV).

Now that we are on the edge of our seats in expectation of the mystery, Paul shares that Jewish believers and Gentile believers are fellow heirs together, in the same body, partakers of God's promise in Christ through the gospel. Think about it, both ethnic groups who were at odds with one another for centuries, now united in God's new family, equal heirs in Christ Jesus! Do you feel the magnitude of this concept? I am sure you can. In my study of this chapter a new concept in the mystery came to light. We, the Church, embody the fulfillment of the mystery—believing Jews and Gentiles alike in the Body of Christ. This is the manifold wisdom of God as seen in His new creation—the Church. Nothing in the Old Testament pointed to this mystery. Therefore, nothing could have thwarted God's plan. This is what Paul is describing as he speaks to the purpose of the mystery, *“to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Ephesians 3:10-11).

My friends, every believer who calls on the name of Jesus is a steward of the mystery that has been hidden for thousands of years and is now attainable for everyone who puts forth the effort to know. As stewards, we are to magnify the name of Jesus. Question: Are you magnifying the name of Jesus in your life? Is He reflected in your words, deeds, actions and behaviors? Are you stewarding the gospel message well and sharing it as the Apostle Paul encourages us to do in our reading today? Please consider these things as you engage in the world around you. Be intentional to look to see where the Lord is working, then confidently join Him there today!

PRAYER: Our Father in the heavens, we thank You for allowing Your Holy Spirit to engage with us in our reading today. Thank You for Jesus and all that He encompasses for every believer. Father, we would like to echo the words of the Apostle Paul, we pray that (You) would grant (us), according to the riches of (Your) glory, to be strengthened with might through (Your) Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in (our) hearts through faith; that (we), being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that (we) may be

filled with all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:16-19). Father we ask all these things in the matchless name of Christ Jesus our Lord, amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Ephesians 4

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