

The Unfathomable Riches of Christ

Ephesians 3:8-13
Message

Be encouraged knowing that God puts unworthy people into His service so that His wisdom and unfathomable riches are prominently displayed through His church.

Outline

Paul encouraged them with the greatness of God's power (3:1-13)

Including Gentiles into the Church had previously been a mystery
(3:1-7)

Paul was commissioned to reveal this mystery by preaching the Gospel
(3:8-13)

The Mystery of the Church (Eph 3:1-7)

- I. Paul humbly called attention to two aspects of his ministry (8-9)
 - A. Though unworthy, Paul was given grace to preach the riches of Christ (8)
 - B. Though unworthy, Paul was given grace to disclose the mystery of the Church (9)
- II. God intends for the church to display His multi-faceted wisdom (10-11)
- III. We are provided confidence before God and encouragement in trials (12-13)

Paul's perspective on his unworthiness

Paul was ashamed of his sins before salvation (1 Tim 1:13; Acts 9:4-5; 26:11, 14-15)

Having imprisoned believers and some put to death affected him deeply (1 Cor 15:9; Gal 1:13; Phil 3:6)

After salvation, Paul still considered himself the chief of sinners (1 Tim 1:15; Rom 7:24)

When we rightly see how unworthy we are, we can more fully behold how worthy Christ is.

Paul's perspective on God using him

Paul used those memories to promote his worship

He was amazed that God would save him

He was amazed that God would use him in His church

He was amazed that God would empower his ministries

Infinately
complex and
intricately
beautiful

We will never
exhaust our
discovery of its
radiance

Truth in Christ

Salvation in
Christ

Every spiritual
blessing (Eph
1:3)

New life in
Christ

Being “in
Christ”

Made into God’s
dwelling place

Unfathomable Riches of Christ

God's Wisdom

Ranges from theoretical knowledge to its practical application

True insight into what would be best

Insight into how to best accomplish what is best

Manifold = multi-faceted; has many facets of intricate beauty