

## Grace upon Grace 6 "The Mysteries"

### The Hidden Mystery

The seven mysteries of Paul's gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

1. The Mystery of Israel's Blindness (Romans 11:25)
2. The Hidden Mystery (1 Corinthians 2:7-9)
3. The Mystery of the Resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:51)
4. The Mystery of the Bride (Ephesians 5:32)
5. The Mystery of Godliness (1 Timothy 3:16)
6. The Mystery of Iniquity (2 Thessalonians 2:7)
7. The Mystery of Faith (1 Timothy 3:9)

READ Eph. 1:15-18

### Definition of Mystery

#### Ephesians 3:4,5

4Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5Which 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;

Blessed to be in this age - would not trade w/Daniel

#### Concordance

3466 Greek

Greek word Musterion, that which being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by divine revelation, and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those only who are illumined by His spirit.

#### 1 Corinthians 2:7-12

7But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9But 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. 10But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11For 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. 12Now 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.

Men have always thought everything was about them - the Jews looked for the Kingdom to come then - for who? For themselves, it was selfishness

I WANT TO SEE HIM ENTHRONED

Why did God hide this Mystery? Look at verse 14 of the scripture in chapter 2

#### 1 Corinthians 2:13-15

13Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14But 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. 15But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Until we make room for God in our hearts – replace the natural with the spiritual – we cannot see into the deep things of God, cannot see into the mysteries

It takes a desire to understand

It is a mystery to the natural mind

We talk a lot about how there must be less of us for there to be more of God

Do you get the scripture? Less of the natural so there can be more of the Spiritual

Contained within this mystery are two other mysteries:

1. **The Mystery of the Gospel – Ephesians 6:17-20** 17And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: 18Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; 19And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

*Paul prayed to speak the gospel as it was intended*

The mystery of the gospel is that which is given to Paul, in turn given to us to make known to the saints. That there is much more grace to this message than just salvation. That if we just received all from God simply because we are saved, there would be zero reason for Paul to have written anything at all, and in fact the original apostles would have been sufficient in the task. If this is so, how foolish Paul was in all of his travails, sufferings, preaching's, teachings, tears, and toil for the church, for us... But there is a difference, and that is why it is called a mystery, that is why it is given to us to understand. It is because Paul knew that there was a possibility of missing the best that God had to offer, that is why he was so insistent in his suffering, and persistent in his warnings.

2. **The Mystery of God's Will – Ephesians 1:9-14** 9Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also



2 young sisters last night filled

after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

The mystery of the Gospel is all of it!! Everything we talk about...

Why else present the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven in parables, mysteries, why would we need to gain knowledge, understanding, there would be no need of revelation



Fullness = "Pleroma" in the Greek, word 4138, it denotes fullness, that of which a thing is full. Examples would be, of the grace and truth manifested of Christ (John 1:16), of all His virtues and excellencies (Eph. 4:13), the conversion and restoration of Israel (Rom. 11:12) which we studied last week

my coffee

It is a big bucket, throughout the ages we studied, everything has been being poured into this bucket. When all is complete and we reach the fullness of times, all will be given over to Christ.

you're a vessel

#### Hebrews 2:8-10

8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. (It is God's intention and will to put all things under Christ) For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. (Why? Because of the hidden mystery, God has to prepare the things for those that love Him) 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. ~~(remember our second study of grace? The cross, how we studied that it was the grace of God that put Jesus up there for us)~~ 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

It was the grace of God that put Him on the cross

#### Psalm 8:5,6

5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

#### Job 7:17-18

17 What is man, that thou shouldest magnify him? and that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him? 18 And that thou shouldest visit him every morning, and try him every moment?

Why was He made a little lower than the angels? So that He could bring us to glory with Him To set up on high those that be low (Job 5:8-11)

The foretold exaltation of man above the angels is made possible only by the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.

By the grace of God, He should taste death for every man

That the fulness of God could be found in men - perfect and complete

Salvation has been provided for all men, God would not that any man perish

The perfection in verse 10 is of Christ, we will cover the perfection of the saints soon

### Luke 13:32

32 And he said unto them, *Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.*

These verses in Hebrews have everything to do with the two mysteries within the hidden mystery.

### Colossians 1:25-26

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

*How about that?  
you fulfil the word of God*

This age is the one that fulfills the word of God, fulfills the heavenly company he is building

Paul was especially equipped, commissioned, and sent forth as the apostle of the church. To bring forth a distinct message to the Body of Christ; this message has been hidden throughout the ages.

According to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you...

Do you realize that the entire church age was given to Paul, that means you and I also

It also says one more thing there...

To fulfil the word of God, the bucket we have been talking about  
It is from this age that it will be filled with all the promise of God

*- You are a vessel  
- waiting to overflow*

Paul received a revelation of the eternal counsel and purposes of God concerning the heavenly company – secrets that had never before been known, but which are necessary to complete the word of God and to fulfil the scripture that all things were made by Him, for Him, (Col. 1:16, 17)

We too can receive this revelation; why else would God have made Paul the minister of the dispensation of grace? It was for all of us that have existed in it, so that we can understand the manifold wisdom and plan of God.

The mysteries of the exalted destiny of the church; that out of this age a body would be created for Christ and out of that body a bride would be taken.



To be in His bride is a reward not a gift, a position earned by purity and surrender – by great cost and earnest pursuit. (Martha Kilpatrick)



Think of all the prophets that prayed and prayed over the ages to know and understand the mysteries of creation, of God's will



And now it is made manifest to the church to know the manifold wisdom of God. (Eph. 3:10)

### Romans 16:25

25 Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, 26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: 27 To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

It is in Paul's writings that we find these hidden things; but they are no more hidden. They are made manifest for our benefit, and are easily understood when we have been illuminated by the Holy Spirit.

The Apostle characterizes the theme of this epistle as HIS GOSPEL. It is the proclamation of Jesus Christ in harmony with the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret since eternal ages. The secret that was hidden, the revelation of the heavenly glory, was given to Paul. It is the wheel within the wheel, the deeper depths, and the higher heights of the glorious, matchless marvels of God's unfathomable love in Jesus Christ. It is that revelation - the "far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" - that God had purposed for His people that are called out in this age - II Cor. 4:17.

*Copied* The prophets had intimations of the glorious heavenly calling; but they did not understand. It remained for Paul, the Apostle of the church, to unfold the mystery of this great parenthesis in God's purposes which comes in between Israel's casting away and their restoration, and between the first and second advents of Christ. Instead of God being defeated by Israel's rejection, He has the opportunity of bringing to pass His greatest purpose. All things work for His glory; even the wrath of man doth praise Him. Paul commits the people to Him who is able to keep them without wavering; but it is according to HIS GOSPEL of absolute grace. That alone has the enabling. To Him, who has purposed it, be all the glory forever. Amen!  
(Grace and Glory)

Our God and Father; desires that we come into the exact knowledge of these revelations which were given to OUR apostle for us.

These mysteries belong to us and we cannot be all that God would have us be without them.

### Colossians 1:27

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Here are depths upon depths; God did not only reveal the mystery, but something far more

"The riches of the glory of this mystery"


How many times have we read right through scriptures like that and never even looked back?

Not only is it a mystery; but there are riches of the glory of it

There is a hope in this revelation that is uniquely its own

A glory is implied beyond that which is being revealed in the mystery

It is the pinnacle stone of that which is being built on the foundation which is Christ



It is far beyond our finite minds to comprehend, or the deepest depths of our hearts to fathom, the infinite riches of glory into which we are invited to enter by this revelation. We are being offered to come to his glory, the vast wealth of Christ's life, His wisdom, righteousness, power, and holiness – which may be reproduced in those who submit to Him, those who trust in Him, and those who let Him have His way with them.

We read in the mystery of God's will; that it is His will that we should come to this knowledge and attainment, this inheritance

### Colossians 1:28, 29

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: 29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.



What do you suppose the warning is?

We know that our salvation is eternal, we cannot lose it

We know that salvation is the gift of God; he will not take it back

We know that the Holy Spirit dwells in us, He will not leave us

So what is the warning?

 It is that our inheritance is from our faith, our walk, our desire, and our endurance with Him 

The warning is that we will suffer loss in our inheritance, if we do not submit to Him

He taught in all wisdom as inspired by the Holy Spirit that the divine purpose was to "present every man perfect (full grown) in Christ Jesus"

Perfect seems like such an unobtainable thing..

It is in the natural state that we were born into the first time

In the spiritual state that we were born again into it is not unobtainable

- The life in vs cannot  
sin - perfect  
Gal. 2:20  
Jn 3:9

This is why it is a relationship and not a choice

This is why understanding the mysteries are so important to attaining to perfection

We start to grow by leaps and bounds when we open our hearts to God's word



We will study this in most of the mysteries but perfect is simply mature and prepared; we have made ourselves ready (Rev. 19:7)

If we realize that:

It's about Him, not about us

It's about that eternal life and not about this life

It's about His body and not about ours

If we can submit our life to the edification and building of His body

If we can bring Love out first in our life

*A desire to see  
Him exalted*

We become fitted for glory with Him

Fitted to inherit the riches of the glory which are the inheritance of Christ

We will jointly reign with Him, His equal upon the throne of Glory

★ This is the hidden mystery... ★

That God longed to give His Son and intelligent companion, a responsive partner, a helpmeet of Joy to reign with Him over the entire universe. A love that grew for Him, not one that was created, but a love from faith in Him, one that became so intimate with Him that it could no longer survive without Him.

*SHE MUST BE HIS EQUAL, HAVING dominion even as He, for He cannot reign without Her*

God showed grace to all that believe, and showed even more grace to the faithful and obedient

The mystery is that God seeks us, and we don't always seek Him

His grace covered believers like the thief on the cross, the only deathbed conversion we see in scripture

And His grace provides inheritance to those that seek Him back

I like to think of it like this...

At the marriage of the Lamb...

In the end; God will say to Jesus

"What'd I tell you...?"

Love from faith...

Pure and perfect"

*1 Kings 2:13-25*

- Adonijah, the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba
- Asks Bathsheba to ask Solomon for Abishai
- Solomon says "does he ask for the kingdom also?"
- who do you think Abishai was