

Elementary Children's Church

Lesson 27

The Mystery of Jesus Christ revealed to Paul

1. All of God's precious people, whether it was Israelites of the Old Testament or even us today, have always been saved by one thing: by Grace through faith in the freely shed blood of Jesus. And even though the plan of God from the beginning was to bring many Sons to Him through His only begotten Son Jesus, there was yet another hidden plan, a mystery, going on at the same time. Jesus was to have a Bride. In **Genesis 2:18**, after God created man (Adam), He said, "it is not good that the man should live alone; I will make him an help meet for him." This conversation between Jesus and the Father on the surface concerned Adam, and soon to be created wife Eve, but in depth it was the first hint of the mystery of Jesus Christ and His Bride.

2. Paul was the vessel God chose to bring for this message of the Glorious Gospel: "Crown glory Gospel" like a Queen is to Her King. Read **Ephesians 3:1-9**. Notice in verse 3, the mystery was made known to Paul. Verse 4 explains that it is the mystery of Christ. Up to this point salvation was never a mystery, the in-filling of the Holy Spirit was no mystery, so what is the mystery? In verse 5, we read that the gentiles (Praise God, you and me) can now be made fellow-heirs (means joints heirs as man and wife) with Jesus Christ, by His Gospel.

3. **Colossians 1:25-29** tells us this mystery was hidden from ages and generations (verse 26). This message was not for the worthies of Faith in the OT, i.e. Moses, Samuel, David, etc.... **Some better thing for us (New Testament "you and me" Saints)**, that they (the worthies of Faith in Old Testament) without us should not be made perfect (**Hebrews 11:40**).

4. The riches of the glory of the mystery of Christ is, "Christ in you the hope of Glory", **Colossians 1:27**. This means a perfectly matured Son of God, fully grown up in Faith and believing the Word of God, all by Grace. And only through the Holy Spirit shedding God's love abroad in our hearts does this transformation happen from glory to glory into even the very image of Jesus Christ himself. Christ in me the hope of Glory.