

WHAT IS THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE MYSTERY

BEFORE YOU MAKE MEN SEE, YOU MUST KNOW WHAT IT IS

*"... 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..."*

~ Ephesians 3:9

1. Have You Heard?

- a. Fact: Paul was given a dispensation of God's grace toward Gentiles - Eph 3:1-2
- b. Fact: Which consisted of the revelation of the mystery of Christ - Eph 3:3-4
- c. Fact: It was unknown to the sons of men (kept secret/hid in God) - Eph 3:5
- d. Confusion: How? When? Where? Why?... most importantly, What is it?

2. Make All Men See What

- a. A Pauline purpose (our purpose) 'to make all men see what is...' - Ephesians 3:8-9
- b. Given to Paul by revelation (how), Mid-Acts, but now (when), among Gentiles (where), Israel is fallen and blind in part (why) ... does not tell you what it is
- c. A popular mistake: the mystery is the NT (Christ, Spirit, grace, faith, salvation)
 - i. Similarity does not make the same, and doesn't account for differences.
- d. The new fulfills covenants, writes the law on hearts, brings salvation to Israel
 - i. Christ w/o covenant, Spirit w/o law, salvation w/o works, blessing w/o Israel
- e. 'not under law' 'not Pentecost/works/Israel/prophesied' *fails to explain what it is*
- f. It is a fellowship granting unsearchable riches in Christ by the gospel - Eph 3:6

3. The Fellowship

- a. Fellowship ~*def.* Partnership, joint interest, communion, connection, knit group
 - i. Old fellowships - Covenants, kingdoms, nations, flocks, trees, vineyards
- b. Mystery fellowship is new creature, new man, same body of Christ - Eph 2:13-15
- c. With God/Christ the Head, you members of His body - Eph 4:15
- d. With each other as members one of another - Eph 4:16, 25; Rom 12:5

4. Benefits of Membership

- a. This fellowship provides unsearchable riches - Eph 3:8 (not Jn 5:39, Rom 15:27)
- b. Salvation, forgiveness, redemption, reconciliation now - Ro 5:11, Eph 1:7, 1Co 1:18
- c. Complete in Christ - Col 2:10, Rom 6:3 (not waiting for a covenant to be complete)
- d. Peace with God, free access, and grace that is sufficient - Rom 5:1-3
- e. A raised position in heavenly glory - Eph 1:3, 2:6-8, and much more Rom 5:9, 20

5. How to Become a Member

- a. This fellowship in Christ is entered into by the gospel of the grace of God - Eph 1:13
- b. Believe in the death, blood, burial, resurrection of Jesus Christ for your sins/life
- c. Trust his righteousness, his justice, him to justify the ungodly -Rom 3:25,26,4:5, 5:1
- d. All this is his work for you, thus, it is the dispensation/gospel/fellowship of His grace
- e. Trusting the gospel of salvation makes you a partaker of His body - 1 Cor 12:13