

DO YOU SEE THE MYSTERY

THE HIDDEN FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST

"And 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. Do You See

- a. Paul's mission: *"to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery"* Eph 3:9
- b. Charts, "not for us", "right division" can sometimes miss 'what is' it.
- c. You know there is a mystery, but where does Paul write about it?
- d. How do you make men see? Do *you* see it?

2. Where is it

- a. *"It's in Paul's epistles!"* - Indeed, it is not found in the law and prophets - Eph 3:5
- b. But in Paul's epistles are also Israel, law, testaments, prophecy - *"as it is written"*
- c. (Yes, you can find mystery truth in Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Acts epistles, too)
- d. Ephesians speaks of Paul's ambassadorship to make known the mystery - Eph 6:19
- e. By Ephesians 3:3 he 'wrote afore in few words' (Eph 3:6 is after)
- f. In Ephesians 1:18 Paul prays God to give their eyes light to see (Eph 1:11 is before)
- g. Eph 1:1-14 = God's will and purpose; Eph 1:15-23 = Paul's prayer they may know.
- h. Ephesians 2 is where we will see what is the fellowship of the mystery.

3. Narrowing it Down

- a. Eph 2:1-10 - Your salvation by grace – risen with Christ – riches of his grace.
- b. (4) *'together with Christ'* (6) *'in Christ Jesus'* (7) *'through Christ Jesus'* <- a fellowship
- c. Christ (Messiah) was of Israel for Israel to Israel - what mystery fellowship is this?
- d. Eph 2:11-22 describes what is the fellowship of the mystery of Eph 3:9
- e. Eph 2:12 'at that time without Christ' 'aliens' and 'strangers' from Israel's access to God
- f. Eph 2:19 "no more strangers and foreigners" ...what happened? Are we in Israel now?
- g. Eph 2:13-18 - A few words in 6 verses explains what is the fellowship of the mystery
- h. These 6 verses remain hidden for all who see fellowship as w/Israel and their covenants

4. A Mystery Fellowship

- a. 11 - In time past, Israel was separated from Gentiles by covenants, circumcision, laws.
- b. 12 - Gentiles had no access to God & His riches but thru Israel & their covenants.
- c. 13 - You are brought near to God in Christ by His blood (the cross worked for you)
- d. 14 - *'he is our peace'* not a priest, not Israel, not animal sacrifices, but Christ crucified.
 - i. *'broken down the middle wall'* - Nothing separates (no covenants, circumcision)
- e. 15 - *'abolished... the law'* - Which made enmity between us both and God.
 - i. The law not how to access God - Col 2:14, Rom 3:21,6:14,7:4; Gal 2:19,4:5,5:1
 - ii. *"to make in himself... one new man"* - A new creature in Christ - 2 Cor 5:17
 - iii. No more Israel or a temple to access God, but you in Him - Gal 6:15, 1 Cor 3:16
- f. 16 - *"reconcile both unto God"* - This the ministry of reconciliation - 2 Cor 5:18-21
- g. 17 - *"preached peace to you ... and to them"* - Not under wrath - Rom 5:1, 11:32

5. A New Creature in Christ

- a. Before there were 2, Israel and Gentile, circumcision and uncircumcision.
- b. But now 1 - "both one", "of twain one new man", "both... in one body"
- c. 2:18 - Through Christ (the difference between Israel's covenants and the one body)
- d. A fellowship with God without covenants, without law, without Israel ← a mystery
- e. God wants all to see this fellowship, not by Israel, law, or covenants but Christ.
- f. Through Christ ... by one Spirit (in all) ... access unto the Father (above all) – Eph 4:4