

WHY GOD HIDES THINGS

UNDERSTANDING WHY GOD KEEPS SOME THINGS SECRET

“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”

~ Ephesians 3:9

1. Why God Hides Some Things

- a. Eph 3:9, Rom 16:25 - The mystery was hid in God for a long time. Why?
- b. Hiding things is secretive, mysterious, creates power, distance, and separation.
- c. Men want to know every secret (gossip, news, learning, classified docs, secret clubs)
- d. Friends reveal secrets, intimacy requires it, transparency, relationship - John 15:15
- e. People cry for God to speak, tell his will, give understanding, what will happen. Job 23
- f. *Why can't God reveal all truth from the beginning, so we can walk in it?*
- g. *Why does God keep some things secret?*

2. In the Beginning

- a. A tree of life... and a tree of knowledge (some knowledge will kill you) - Gen 2:9, 16-17
- b. Satan calls God a liar, gains trust by revealing a secret (not whole truth) - Gen 3:3-10
- c. God keeps some things secret, because they would destroy you. (sin, evil, Eden)

3. He is God

- a. God knows all things, we cannot - Deu 29:29, Rom 11:33-34, Eze 28:2-3
- b. God knows every secret, none are kept from him - Jer 23:24, Ps 139:12, Heb 4:12-13
- c. Not all things are ours to know (we have no right) - Acts 1:7

4. Judgment

- a. Some things secret until the judgment - Luke 12:1-3, 1 Cor 4:5, 1 Tim 5:24
- b. An appeal to not keep this secret: to judge - Ps 35:21-25, 50:3, 83:1, Isa 65:6-7

5. Not Yet Time

- a. In his time, he will show - 1 Tim 6:15, Job 31:35
- b. Some secrets are kept for the right time, the end time - Dan 12:4, 8-9
- c. No man knows the day and the hour (mysteries yet unrevealed) - Mark 13:32

6. To Fulfill All Righteousness

- a. Jesus hid his glory when he became man and died - Phi 2:6-8
- b. *"Tell no man..."* - keep it secret - Mark 1:44, 3:12, 5:43, 7:36, 8:26, 30, 9:9, Mt 12:14
- c. He spoke parables to fulfill prophecy - Matt 13:35 (Ps 78:2)

7. Revealed to Some

- a. *"He revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets"* - Amos 3:7, Dan 2:19-22
- b. *"The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him"* - Ps 25:14
- c. Some secrets are only for some people to know - Matt 13:11-13, Luke 10:21

8. It Takes Time to Perform His Purpose

- a. What was unknown before can be known later - Luke 10:23-24
- b. They could not understand if they wanted to - Luke 9:45, 18:34
- c. Some things you cannot bear yet - John 16:12, 1 Cor 3:1-2
- d. If they had known, Christ would not have died (no salvation) - 1 Cor 2:7-8

9. For Your Learning

- a. Some things are secretly being prepared for them that love him - 1 Cor 2:9-10
- b. If God had revealed everything first, we would not have scripture - Rom 15:4
- c. Hope can only be had before secret glory is revealed - Rom 8:18, 24-25
- d. Patience is God's will for you - Rom 5:3 (Lam 3:21-26), Gal 5:5
- e. Why is God silent?! Grace to all - 2 Cor 5:19, Rom 5:20-21, 2 Pet 3:9,15

10. Faith

- a. He hid from our eyes so that we could have faith - Heb 11:1
- b. He hid his presence so that we could hear his words - Rom 10:17
- c. Necessary faith (salvation) is why God has been slow to reveal it all - Eph 2:8-9
- d. Can you learn to trust God, let God be true, give him the benefit of doubt.

11. His Excellent Reason

- a. It was hid for this reason: that it might be known by the church → Eph 3:10-13
- b. God does not keep all things secret. He reveals for us to know him and his purpose.
- c. We can now know His wisdom/will – he is not diminished by revealing it - Eph 1:9-10
- d. When things are hidden it seems hard, a struggle, but be faithful, hold fast.
- e. After it is revealed, everything becomes clear, purposed, perfect.
- f. God has made known all things you need - 2 Tim 3:16 - the next revelation is glory!