

CONSEQUENCES OF THE MYSTERY

“Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ,” – Colossians 4:3

1. We are not ignorant of the Satan’s devices – Confusion and doubt - 2 Cor 2:11

- a. The weapon he fears the most is sound doctrine – Titus 1:9, Eph 6:14-17
- b. Deceive the hearts of the simple - Romans 16:17-19
- c. “Without understanding” is a sin - Romans 1:31
- d. It is not hard to get, it is hard to get to - 2 Cor 4:4, 6-7
- e. He is powerless against you when you have the word of God in you rightly divided

2. Doctrine (or lack thereof) has consequences – Current Consequences

- a. Biblical Illiteracy – Bible is not authoritative, newer language, don’t need it
- b. Failed Efforts – “starting new things”, “more real”, “more experience”, “more action”
- c. Confusion – 100 mixed denom, charismaticism, piecemeal doctrine (internet, media)
- d. The issues that cause the confusion, distraction, and doubt are solved by the mystery
- e. Mystery of Christ works! Where the church has stumbled upon its truths it has seen success in glorifying God through 1 Tim 2:4 – Luther, “clear gospel”

3. Confusions resolved by the Mystery

- a. Faith/Works-(most damning) – let’s set it to rest with the mystery of christ
- b. Holydays- resolved – no more wars? Let no man judge you, Col 2:16, Gal 4:3
- c. Baptism (most divisive) – resolved – 1 Cor 1:17, Eph 4:5, 1 Cor 12:13
- d. Communion – (most RC) – resolved – John 6:35, 53, 63 - 1 Cor 10:16 oneness in Christ
- e. Prayer-(most confusing) – resolved – It’s not ask and get, it’s for maintenance – Phil 4:7
- f. Tongues-(feigned) – Rather speak five words with my understanding - 1 Cor 14:19
- g. God’s intervention-(superstitious) – intervenes by the cross, WoG, faith, Spirit (mystery)
- h. Tithing- (fraudulent) – giving problems? Stop tithing. “God loves a cheerful giver”
- i. Politics – (most Jewish) – Israel flags, Gen 12:3, CNN, Rom 11:11, Col 3:10-11
- j. Family roles (most politically correct) – understood in light of the mystery – Eph 5:30
- k. Great commission (most blindly accept)- It doesn’t work! The Mystery is right, itworks!

4. Consequences of the Mystery

- a. Stability – stable through the doctrine, church needs an anchor – Col 2:7, Eph 4:14
- b. Sufficiency– no more God handout – not a struggling church, a victorious one. 2 Cor 3:5
- c. Strengthened – through tribulation - Rom 5:2-3, peace and joy - Col 1:11, Eph 3:16