



The Mystery Revealed

EPHESIANS 3:1-13

μυστήριον
mustērion

*Of God: the secret counsels
in dealing with the righteous,
which are hidden from
ungodly and wicked men
but plain to the godly*

I. The mystery of God is His _____, the union of all believers in Christ. (vv. 1-6)

*This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body,
and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. v. 6*

THEN :

CHRISTLESS : No national hope of a Messiah

STATELESS : Excluded from living in a theocratic Union

COVENANTLESS : Foreigners to the blessings of God

HOPELESS : No future messianic age to look forward to

GODLESS : Living in a desperate situation without meaning



NOW :

In Christ Jesus ...

FELLOW HEIRS

MEMBERS OF ONE BODY

PARTAKERS OF GOD'S PROMISES

II. The church reveals the _____ of God through His mysterious ways. (vv. 7-13)

... through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known ... v. 10

A. God's wisdom is to use His power to transform sinners into _____. (vv. 7-9)

... so generously dispense the riches you've received right where God has placed you.

B. God's wisdom is to teach the _____ of His grace as He unites the church. (v. 10)

... so let God's glory be made known by your love for one another.

C. God's wisdom is to allow anyone direct _____ to Himself through Christ. (vv. 11-13)

... so persevere in God's purpose for you as you spend time in His presence.

CHRIST
OVER ALL

The Church is essential to

- God's eternal plan
- God's heavenly witness
- your earthly purpose

... so your participation is _____!



SERMON DEVOTIONAL STUDY

1. Read Ephesians 3:1-13. What is the *mystery* Paul is revealing here, exactly?
2. What is the purpose of the church? How did this sermon help you more fully understand the answer to this question?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:10-12. What do we teach the prophets and angels as we live out our Christian walk here on earth? How revolutionary to you is the idea that even if the world around us doesn't know or care, we are still on display to the heavenly realms?
4. Our assignment as Christ followers in this Church Age is to demonstrate the grace of God, and the way God has chosen to train us is by learning to love one another as we participate in His church. What would you say to someone who argues that church is irrelevant and that they prefer to follow Christ on their own without being part of a church? What does this say about their level of understanding of this passage and their level of spiritual maturity?
5. In some ways the greatest mystery is why God would call you at this point in history to be a part of His church, even when you were dead in sin and did not care for the things of God. This kind of revelation demands a response. How has this knowledge changed your life? What will you do in response to this sermon?

"... so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places." (Eph 3:10)

"... things into which angels long to look." (1 Pet 1:12)

This does not mean the angels want to but can't. It means they want to because in a sense they are outsiders to the drama of sin and redemption and they love to watch the great work of God's salvation unfold in history and in the lives of the saints. Peter's point is this: If angels get excited about our salvation, how much more should we! If angels love to look at the work of God in saving sinners like us, how much more should we who are the very beneficiaries of that salvation love to look into it and be thankful for it and say with Peter, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ".

-John Piper

**CHRIST
OVER ALL**

As you close, talk to the Lord about how being part of His church on earth has shown you more of His character and glory.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.cbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

MARRIED COUPLES, "FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE" STARTS NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 1. We all know that marriage has its ups and downs, but it's another thing to experience it. That's why we want to remind you this summer that God has a good plan through the highs and lows of your marriage. Along with encouragement, you'll get equipped to love your spouse with the kind of devotion that can only come from God. The class is for couples in their 20s, 30s and beyond. Sign up today at www.cbcfamily.org/events. "For Better, For Worse" will meet at 10:45 a.m. in the Oak Room.

READY TO BE BAPTIZED? If you've recently made the decision to follow Jesus, we want to celebrate! Take the plunge and sign up for the next baptism class. You'll learn why getting baptized is both awesome and an important step to take in your relationship with God, and we'll help you get ready! The class meets next Sunday, July 1 at 6:15 p.m. in the Link Conference Room. Sign up at www.cbcfamily.org/baptism.

WE'RE CELEBRATING THE 4TH AT NEXT SUNDAY'S FAMILY BACKYARD! Sleep in next Sunday morning and worship with us at the 5 o'clock, because afterward we're having a party in the Great Room! There will be all kinds of food, games and activities to kick off the Independence Day festivities. If you're looking for more community and summer fun, you'll love it!

READY FOR A SEASON OF GROWTH? APPLY FOR THRIVE. When faced with life's difficulties, most of us respond by changing our behavior or circumstances instead of addressing the actual root causes of our struggles. Thrive is a Christ-centered discipleship program that takes people to the root of sin and suffering and teaches how to embrace the freedom found only in Christ. It's a 16-week experience that begins this August. Learn more and apply at www.cbcfamily.org/thrive.

MAKE IT FACEBOOK OFFICIAL. From encouraging sermon clips and Coffee Talks to event info and looks behind the scenes, we're always posting something new on Facebook. Search "Christ Chapel Bible Church" to follow the page today. Prefer Twitter or Instagram? Find us by searching @christchapel_fw.

DON'T TRAVEL WITHOUT THE CCBC APP THIS SUMMER. As you head out of town for vacation, be sure to pack the Christ Chapel App! Available for download from the App Store and Google Play, the app helps you stay in touch while on the go with sermon archives, space for notes, a way to submit prayer requests, Bible reading plans and more.

JOIN US TOMORROW FOR MONDAYS WITH THE MASTER. Each Monday we gather to pray for the needs of our church family and the world at 12:30 p.m. in Link Classroom North. Open to all ages, we'd love to see you there! Email JessicaK@christchapelbc.org for more information.