

Sermon Scripture Passage: Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 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. 7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Scripture References:

Romans 1:16 – For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

I Timothy 1:15 – The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Romans 3:22-25 - For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:21 – God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Ephesians 2:4-5, 8 – But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved... For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

Galatians 3:25-27 – But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

East Glenville Church – Sermon Notes Handout – January 15th 2023

The Big Story of the Bible: Part Two #7 – Ephesians 3:1-12 – The Mystery Revealed

Question: How does it all work? How did Jesus' death lead to our receiving eternal life?

Ephesians 3 Gives the Answer with the phrase, "the Mystery that has been made known!"

The Mystery is the Gospel Message, the Good News of the ____ of Salvation through Christ

This Mystery had been _____ in the past ages in God.

The Surprise _____: Salvation is open for all peoples through the _____ Messiah

The word translated Gentiles is in Greek "ethne" – and means the _____.

This Mystery has now become known and is being proclaimed in the _____.

I Peter 1:21 – The good news you heard are, "*things into which _____ long to look*"

The Mystery has been revealed to Paul and He has special _____ into God's grace

Paul was given the task of bringing to _____ for all peoples the plan of salvation.

What about Paul prepared him to take on that role?

Five Big Truths of God's Plan of Salvation

One – Justification by Substitutionary Atonement

Two: Salvation by Grace, received as a gift.

Three: Adoption as Sons

Four: Union with Christ

Five: Regeneration by the Holy Spirit

Answers for the blanks:

- Plan
- Hidden
- Twist
- Jewish
- Nations
- Church
- Angels
- Insight
- Light

What about Paul prepared him to take on that role?

- Training as a rabbi under Gamaliel
- Able to write fluently in Greek and make strong arguments in that language
- Having received such grace from the Lord he is able to proclaim grace
- Paul is a strong personality and zealous and able to push past opposition
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