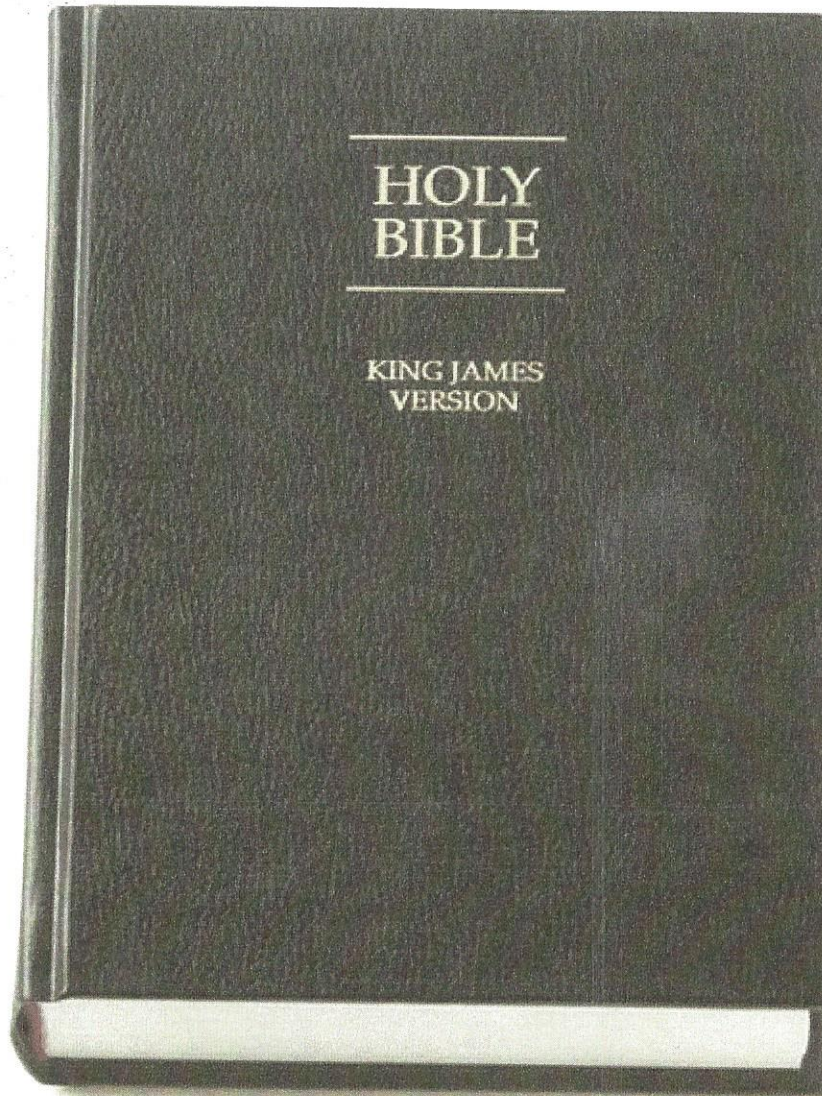


THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY

ROMANS 16:25-27



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“The Revelation of the Mystery” set in motion the “Manifold Wisdom of God” in making known God’s genius plan for the complete destruction of the entire Satanic plan of evil. And the repossession of the Heavenly Places by the instrumentality of the Church, the Body of Christ.

K. Blades

R. C. Brock

(1.)

THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY

25. "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26. But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

27. To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever." Amen.

CF. Romans 16:25-27

OUTLINE

1. WHY IS IT CALLED THE MYSTERY?
2. WHERE DID THE MYSTERY COME FROM?
3. TO WHOM THE MYSTERY WAS REVEALED.
4. MANY NAMES FOR THE MYSTERY.
5. WHAT THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY CONTAINS.
6. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MYSTERY.
7. A WARNING! COMES WITH THE MYSTERY

*Many "mysteries," or "sacred secrets," are to be found in the scriptures, but "one" stands out as preeminent, (supreme, outstanding) coming before all other mysteries, in importance. It is called in scripture, "The Revelation of the Mystery," the great body of truth committed by revelation to the Apostle Paul.

Turn to Philippians 1:15-17! (UNDER PERSECUTION!). "I am set (READY) for the Defence of the Gospel of the Grace of God." *(In other words, "I am set for the Defense of the Preaching of JC according to the revelation of the Mystery."

1 Peter 3:15 (ENDURING PERSECUTION IN A GODLY MANNER.) *Ages To Come* "Sanctify (set apart, acknowledging God giving Him first place in your lives as Lord and Master)... "sanctify" ... the Lord your God in your hearts and be READY ALWAYS to give an answer (a defense) to every man that asketh you a reason of the Hope" that is in you with meekness and fear." (gentleness and respect). *(note pg 1)*

2.

POINT # 1: WHY IS IT CALLED "THE MYSTERY?"

A. Because it was "KEPT SECRET".

Romans 16:25¹

B. Because it was "HID IN GOD".

Ephesians 3:9;

C. Because it was "HID from Ages and from Generations".

Colossians 1:26;

D. Because "IN OTHER AGES was NOT MADE KNOWN".

Ephesians 3:5[†]

E. THE MYSTERY cannot be found in the Old Testament.

Since it was "Kept Secret", "Hid in God", "Hid from Other Ages & Generations, **Not Made Known,**" this Mystery CANNOT be found in the Old Testament. A phrase in Ephesians 3:8 "THE UNSEARCHABLE riches of Christ" also testified to this fact. Cf. Eph. 3:8.

NOTICE:

F. "UNSEARCHABLE" means "UNTRACEABLE"; which is to say, that these "RICHES of CHRIST" **cannot be traced anywhere else in the Bible EXCEPT** in Paul's writings (13 Epistles, Romans – Philemon) addressed to the CBOC.

G. In addition to the three verses already quoted, Rom. 16:25; Eph. 3:9; Col.1:26; THE MYSTERY is mentioned by Paul at least 6 other times:

Cf. Eph. 1:9; (2.) Eph.3:3; (3.) Eph. 3:4; (4.) Eph.6:18-19; (5.) Col. 4:3; (6) 1 Tim. 3:9 .

H. This makes THE MYSTERY a unique and distinctive message; a message that is completely different from anything that will be preached after it. Therefore, the Revelation of the Mystery is in a class by itself and certainly is NOT to be mixed with any other gospel or thought to be part of any other gospel. (This is covered in Point # 7) **"A WARNING!!" TO "PREACH NO OTHER GOSPEL."**

3.

THE MYSTERY: which was "Kept Secret", "Hid in God" was the Divine Purpose to make of Jew and Gentile a wholly (completely) new thing, the Church, which is His (Christ's Body), formed by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. It is a SPIRITUAL BAPTISM! NOT WATER! cf. 1 Cor, 12:12-13 & Rom. 6:3-5.

THE CHURCH (Christ's Body) in which the earthly distinctions of Jew and Gentile disappears. cf. Eph. 2:14,15; Col. 3:10,11.

POINT # 2: WHERE DID THE MYSTERY COME FROM?

A. The MYSTERY came from the Lord Jesus Christ by DIRECT REVELATION. Cf. Galatians 1:11-12; Eph. 3:2-3; 2 Cor 12:1 & 7.

B. And so, we see in Scripture that the Lord Jesus Christ revealed His Heart and Mind to the Apostle Paul when He taught Paul PERSONALLY the Revelation of the MYSTERY.

C. NOTICE: The last words of Christ are NOT contained in the 1st Chp of Acts (vss. 4,5,7,8) like organized religion would have you to believe! These ARE Christ's words, but they are NOT the LAST! Apostle Paul wrote down the Words of Christ for the Church, the Body of Christ in this Age of Grace. In the 13 Pauline Epistles alone (Romans – Philemon), we find the "Riches of Grace," the doctrine, position, walk, destiny and purpose of the CBOC today!

That is why it is so important TOO us and FOR us, to "Study" the Pauline Epistles, because we want God's Approval on our study, ministries & our service (2 Tim. 2:15) when we stand before the "Bema," the "Judgement Seat of Christ" to receive our rewards for being faithful to the Doctrine. Cf. Romans 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10.

D. There is also a MINISTRY connected with the MYSTERY and it also comes DIRECTLY from the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 20:24; Eph. 3:7; Col. 1:23 & 25.

POINT # 3: TO WHOM THE MYSTERY WAS REVEALED.

4.

A. This MYSTERY was revealed to the Apostle Paul. Paul was the ONLY Apostle to be taught the Revelation of the Mystery PERSONALLY by the Lord Jesus Christ.

NOTICE: The Gospel of the Kingdom had 12 Apostles, but the Revelation of the MYSTERY had ONLY ONE Apostle, the Apostle Paul.

Cf. 2 Cor. 12:1-6; *Paul was translated (transferred to heaven w/o death) we hear him say in vs 2, "(whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth). Paul was "caught up" to 3rd heaven, "caught up into paradise, into God's presence.

B. PAUL'S DEFENCE BEFORE KING AGRIPPA: cf. Acts 26:13-16. ' At Paul's conversion on Damascus road, he saw the Lord as the twelve had NEVER seen Him, IN HIS ASCENDED GLORY IN HEAVEN (vs 13):

But the Risen, now Ascended, Glorified Lord had appeared to Paul to REVEAL something to him. The Lord said in the 16th verse: "BUT RISE, & STAND UPON THY FEET."

C. The 12 Apostles had been sent to proclaim our Lord's KINGDOM RIGHTS, EVEN AFTER the ASCENSION. Cf. Acts 1:6; 8-9 vss. *Paul had been sent to testify the Gospel of the GRACE of GOD. Cf. Acts 20:24.'

D. Paul was not given different messages, but ONE MESSAGE was GRADUALLY committed to him in a series of UNFOLDING REVELATIONS. Cf. Acts 20:24; 26:16; 1 Cor. 9:17; 2 Cor. 12:1-4; Gal. 1:11-12; 15-16; Ephesians 3:1-4; Col. 1:24-26

E. Paul's Apostleship came DIRECTLY from the Lord Jesus Christ. Cf. Gal. 1:15-17; Gal. 2:7-9; Acts 9:15; 1 Tim. 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11; Acts 26:16-17; Rom. 11:13; Rom. 15:16.

NOTE: Now this is amazing! The 12 apostles were to go to the Gentiles AFTER the nation of Israel had repented. But Israel DID NOT REPENT! The Gentiles NOW are being saved through the FALL OF ISRAEL. (Romans 11:11-12.) And this, by the Gospel of the Grace of God revealed to the Apostle Paul.

5.

POINT # 4: MANY NAMES FOR THE MYSTERY. (12 NAMES)

1. The Revelation of The Mystery - Romans 16:25
2. The Gospel of the Grace of God - Acts 20:24
3. My Gospel – Romans 2:16; 16:25; 2 Timothy 2:8
4. Gospel of Christ – Romans 1:16; 15:19, 29; Galatians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 9:12, 18; Philippians 1:27; 2 Corinthians 9:13; 10:14; 1 Thess. 3:2
5. Gospel of Peace - Romans 10:15; Ephesians 6:15
6. Gospel of His Son – Romans 1:9
7. Gospel of God – Romans 1:1; 15:16; 2 Cor. 11:7; 1 Thess. 2:2, 8, 9
8. Gospel of the Uncircumcision – Galatians 2:7
9. Christ's gospel – 2 Cor. 2:12
10. Gospel of your salvation – Ephesians 1:13
11. Glorious gospel of Christ– 2 Corinthians 4:4
12. Glorious gospel of the blessed God – 1 Timothy 1:11

***The Scripture references by each name, show where these names are mentioned. **Except** for the one mention of the **Gospel of God** in **1 Peter 4:17**; ALL of these names are used **ONLY** by Paul.

POINT # 5: WHAT THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY CONTAINS.

1. THE FORMATION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

- A. This is the primary purpose of the gospel revealed to the Apostle Paul. Up to the time of this gospel, Israel had been the people of God, but with the raising up of Paul in Acts 9 a new group of saved individuals was beginning to be formed by God. The name of this group is called **THE BODY OF CHRIST**. Paul uses this phrase **2** times in referring to born again Christians. CF. 1 Cor. 12:27; Ephesians 4:12.
*This living Organism (or living being) is also referred to by the word "BODY" some 16 times in Paul's 13 Epistles.

"ONE BODY"

- B. CF. Romans 12:5; 1 Cor. 10:17; Ephesians 4:4; Colossians 3:15.

6.

C. This BODY is called a CHURCH. CF. Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18.

This Church is a universal church and is made up of all Jews and Gentiles who have been saved in this dispensation of grace. cf. Eph. 3:6; Eph. 2:14-18; Rom. 10:12-13.

D. The BODY of Christ BEGINS with the Apostle Paul. Notice very carefully his testimony to this fact. This is the Holy Spirit's interpretation of Paul's conversion in Acts Chapter 9. The word "First" & "Chief" in the Greek are interchangeable with Number one (1). Paul is saying "that Christ came into the world to save sinners of whom I am chief." "First." "Number 1."

E. Paul was the FIRST ONE SAVED in God's formation of this "One New Man" cf. Peter 2:15; "the Church, the Body of Christ." And he is our "PATTERN" (design, model) to them Which should hear after believe on hm to ever to life everlasting."

NOTE: Paul was **no worse** a sinner than anybody else. **All outside of Christ are DEAD in SIN.** Cf. Ephesians 2:1.

2. THIS PRESENT DISPENSATION OF GRACE.

This Present dispensation or Age of Grace also begins with the Apostle Paul. It was given to him by Christ. Cf. Ephesians 3:2; Col. 1:25.

A. Since it was given to Paul it could never have been in existence before him. Peter knew nothing about this Dispensation when he preached on the Day of Pentecost.

B. This Dispensation was **HID IN GOD**, along with The Mystery: cf. Ephesians 3:9

C. The word "FELLOWSHIP" is translated "DISPENSATION" in verse 2 of this chapter.

NOTICE: the striking likeness of TWO sets of phrases:

(1) The Dispensation of THE GRACE OF GOD

The Gospel of THE GRACE OF GOD.

(2) The Dispensation of THE MYSTERY

The Revelation of THE MYSTERY

7.

This teaches us that **THE MYSTERY** is to be the **ONLY GOSPEL** we are to preach to mankind for salvation and for growth in Christ. In the light of this evidence, **NOBODY** has the right or the authority to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom in **THIS DISPENSATION OF GRACE**.

3. THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD

A. This marvelous gospel emphasizes and magnifies the **GRACE OF GOD** toward the lost, and for those who are saved. It is the answer for anyone who comes to the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. Salvation is by GRACE: Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:7; Rom. 3:24;

C. This GOSPEL is THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS: 1 Cor. 1:17-18; Gal. 6:14; Col. 1:20.

D. Forgiveness of sins by the BLOOD of JESUS CHRIST: Rom. 3:25; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; Rom. 5:9

E. The Gospel of the Kingdom proclaimed **water baptism** for the remission of sins. cf. Mark 1:4; Acts 2:38.

Paul's Gospel proclaims the **blood of Christ** for the **forgiveness** (remission) of sins, there by **CANCELING OUT** the need for **water baptism** in this **Dispensation of GRACE**.

F. The **DEATH** and **RESURRECTION** of **Christ** are necessary to the Gospel and for Salvation. Cf. 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Romans 10:9; 2 Cor. 5:15.

G. The **NEED** for salvation lies in the fact that **ALL** men **OUTSIDE** of Christ are (dead men walking-Spiritually), "**DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SINS.**" (Either a man is **COMPLETELY IN** or **COMPLETELY OUT OF CHRIST!**) CF. Eph. 2:1, 5; Rom. 3:10, 23; Rom. 5:12.

4. THE TEMPORARY SETTING ASIDE OF ISRAEL

The Revelation of the Mystery gives the only scriptural answer as to why God is **NOT** dealing with the nation Israel. It is because He has set the nation of **ISRAEL** aside, at **Acts 28**, for the remainder of this Dispensation of Grace.

8.

CF. Romans 11:25:

A. The phrase “in part” shows that it is only a **temporary setting aside** until the **fullness of the Gentiles** (which refers to the completion of the body of Christ) be come in. After this fulness, God will once again resume His program for Israel.

B. Cf. Acts 28:27-28

This **BLINDNESS** is seen very clearly in this passage.”

“**AND THEIR (ISRAEL) EYES HAVE THEY CLOSED;”**”**THAT THE SALVATION OF GOD IS SENT UNTO THE GENTILES AND THAT THEY WILL HEAR IT.”**

C. Cf. Isaiah 6:9-10:

Now we come to the “**FALL,**” “**DIMINISHING,**” “**CASTING AWAY.**”

And so, with the quotation in Isaiah, **God temporarily set Israel aside** and **now deals** with the **Gentiles**. This **setting aside of Israel** is called a **FALL** the **DIMINISHING** and the **CASTING AWAY** in: cf. **Romans 11:11-12, & 15.**

D. According to **PROPHECY**, the Gentiles were to be saved through the Salvation of Israel (Isaiah 11:1 & 10; Romans 15:8-12.) But according to the **MYSTERY**, salvation has come to the Gentiles through the **fall of Israel.**

5. THE EQUALITY OF JEW AND GENTILE.

During the earthly ministry of Christ to Israel, the Jew had 1st place in God's heart. The Gentiles were looked upon as “**dogs**” (Gentile position).

*Cf. Matt. 15:24-27 (“**house of Israel**”) **1st place!** *Cf. Vs. 27 (“**dogs**”)

Acts 3:26; (Peter’s words to Israel).

A. With the **Revelation of the Mystery** to Paul, a change takes place, for **NOW** Jews and Gentiles are treated as **Equals**. Cf. Rom. 3:9; Rom. 3:19; Rom. 3:22-23; Rom. 10:12-13; Rom. 11:32.

6. THE ONE BAPTISM OF EPHESIANS 4:5

A. The **7 unities** of the **Body of Christ** as set forth in **Ephesians 4:4-6**, are absolutely necessary for the right understanding of the Revelation of the Mystery. Cf. Eph. 4:4-6.

9.

B. It is important that we understand the phrase “**one baptism**”. It is also important that we see that there is only **ONE** baptism and **not TWO**. Of two baptisms in the Bible, water and Holy Spirit, what baptism is meant here? Abundant evidence clearly shows us that the **baptism** by the **Holy Spirit** is one that is meant in Ephesians 4:5. CF. 1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27;

C. THIS IS CALLED THE “OPERATION OF GOD.” CF. Col. 2:12.

We are **placed** into the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit. Water **cannot** place anybody into anything. CF. Ephesians 1:12-14. (DEMO).

Paul is the **only one** who **writes** about **this baptism by the Holy Spirit**.

What took place at Pentecost was the baptism with the Holy Spirit by the Lord Jesus Christ Matthew 3:11 acts 11:16. Christ continued his ministry to Israel on the day of Pentecost.

NOTE: The purpose of “water baptism” was to identify the believing remnant of Israel with their Messiah, Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ was water baptized to identify Himself as the Messiah to Israel.

D. Paul’s Testimony concerning water baptism is all **negative**. Notice the following: cf. **1 Cor. 1:13-17; & Hebrews 6:1-2.**

***These Verses**, coupled with the **ONE baptism** of Ephesians 4:5, teach us that the baptism by the Holy Spirit is the **only baptism** associated with the **Revelation of the Mystery**.

7. A NEW COMMISSION TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

DEFINITIONS

1. **MYSTERY: (Noun);** "Something not understood or beyond understanding."
2. **REVELATION: (Noun);** "The act or instance of making known something previously unknown or concealed."
3. **SECRET: (Adjective) 1.** "Something kept hidden or unexplained (or) 2. "Something kept from the knowledge of others or shared confidentially with another." (Paul)!
4. **HID: (Adjective)** "Being out of sight, concealed, undisclosed."
5. **AGES: (Noun)** "A Lifetime, A Period of Time."
6. **DISPENSATION: 1.** "Is a particular program that God administers or dispenses for man's obedience. 2. a period or division of time during which God gave man a set of instructions in respect to his sinfulness and for man's responsibility/obedience."
7. **THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY:** "Kept Secret," "Hid In God," "Hid from Ages and Generations," BUT NOW is revealed to Apostle Paul, was the Divine Purpose to make of Jew and Gentile an entirely new entity, "The Church," which is His (Christ's Body), formed by the baptism with the Holy Spirit and in which the earthly distinction of Jew and Gentile disappears.
8. **THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD:** Is the KNOWLEDGE of the "Genius of God" in the "Mystery of Christ." It, the "Manifold Wisdom of God," is God's Genius Plan to take Satan and his principalities and powers in the heavenly places in their own craftiness. Triumphant over them at the "Battle on the Cross" and the removal from their positions and the reconciliation of their positions back to God through the instrumentality of a new creature, the Church, the Body of Christ.

NOTICE: Satan and his cohorts, much to their own grief, see the Genius of God in the Mystery. Unfortunately, though, far too many Christians do not!