

The Mystery Revealed in due Times...

Definition of Words Used:

1. Dispensation – Greek word (*oikonomia*: stewardship, administration)
2. Utterance – to declare, a declaration, revelation.
3. Manifested – Greek word (*er'-gon* - is a deed (action) that carries out (completes) an *inner desire* (intension, purpose) & *phaneroō* - revealed)
4. Committed – Greek word (*parakatathēkē* - that committed to one's trust) (pronounced para-ka-tath-ēkē)

In Paul's letters we read about several "mysteries", truths concerning the new Church which had been previously "kept secret" and "hidden in God" until Christ revealed them directly to Paul from heaven. Even "the word of God" or "gospel" which Paul preached was a "mystery" (**Romans 16:25-26; Colossians 1:24-29; Ephesians 6:19; see Titus 1:1-3**) which the risen Christ gave to Paul so that he could proclaim it to the Gentiles (**Galatians 1:6-2:10**).

Titus 1: 1-3

¹ Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; (do a study on the Faith of Jesus Christ) Let's look at: *Isa. 42:1 & 1 Pet. 2:5, 6.*

² In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; (see *Numbers 23:18-19*)

³ But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Savior; (*Romans 16:25-26*)

- *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, 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 (Rom. 16:25-26)*

God kept it a secret from everyone, including Israel's prophets, until He manifested (*phaneroō*) it to Paul and other "apostles and prophets" whom He sent to the Gentiles (Eph. 3:1-5). And Paul's epistles, specifically, are the "Scriptures" by which He has "made known" this marvelous message to "all nations" (see 2 Pet. 3:15,16).

- ²⁴ *who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: ²⁵ whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; ²⁶ even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: ²⁷ to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: ²⁸ whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: ²⁹ whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily. (Colossians 1:24-29)*
- ¹⁹ *and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, (Ephesians 6:19) **Make known the Mystery of the gospel!***

(See Ephesians 2:1-7) The Mystery Revealed even more!

¹ And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

² Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

³ Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

⁶ And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

⁷ That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Paul calls the message which he preached “my gospel” (see **Rom. 2:16; 2 Tim. 2:8**) and describes it as “**the preaching of Jesus Christ** according to the **revelation of the mystery.**”

Let’s look again at **Titus 1:1-3** again...

The reason why Paul so strongly emphasizes his gospel as the standard of truth is that Christ Himself gave it to him directly from heaven. He didn’t receive it through Peter or any other human agency but *by the revelation of Jesus Christ* (**Gal. 1:12**).

It was the Lord who had made known to him this all-important proclamation and the Lord who had sent him to spread it. By this, the churches of Galatia—and all believers still today—can know beyond the shadow of a doubt that the words of Paul are the very words of their glorified Savior and Head (Jesus Christ).

So the next time we look at **Titus 1:1-3**, let's consider the following;

The “*hope of eternal life*,” (**Titus 1:2**) the believer's sure expectation of living with God in heaven forever, is obviously an essential aspect of the gospel.

Indeed, it's “*the hope of the gospel*” (**Col. 1:23**). Paul says that God had this “hope” in mind “before the world began” but manifested (*phaneroō*) it “*in due times*.” (Not hoping it could happen, but that it will)

Here again, let's look at **Romans 16:25,26**, we see that the message which Paul proclaimed had been hidden in the past. And this time, he explains even more clearly when and how it was revealed.

The Father unveiled His age-old plan for our eternal life, (God's hope) not in the laws of Moses or Psalms of David or visions of Daniel or parables of Jesus or sermons of Peter, but in the preaching of Paul: “through preaching”, which as Paul put it “**is committed unto me**” (**Titus 1:3**)

It was Paul whom God chose to “make all men see” or to bring to light [*phōtizō*] (where we get the word PHOTO[remember]) this wondrous

“mystery” about the “unsearchable riches of Christ” (**Eph. 3:8,9**).
That’s why Paul speaks of “the mystery of the gospel” (**Eph. 6:19**).

Ephesians 3:8-9 (KJV)

⁸ Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

⁹ 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, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Blessings...