

The Mystery, Its Implications

Commentary for July 16, 2021 — Your Destiny, My Destiny, Everyone's Destiny

In the July 1, 2021 Commentary I gave my short definition and understanding of "The Mystery," as presented by the apostle Paul and others. I will repeat my definition:

"The Mystery" is God's teaching that every human being will have the same relationship to God as Christ has at present, or ever will have.

Paul told Timothy, "**This you know, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me**" (2 Timothy 1:15). Why did they turn away from Paul? Why did even the living apostles and disciples initially reject Paul? They thought they had good reasons to do so.

The Mystery expanded the awareness of our relationship with God our Father — YHWH. That teaching through Paul and others was hard for many to accept. It went too far. They felt Christ and His status was diminished by Paul, and believers were exalted too much. The apostle John, who first rejected the Mystery, came to teach, in agreement with Paul, that we would be "like Him" and "see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2).

Just as the Old Covenant surpassed (but did not replace) the New Covenant.¹ Later, the New Covenant was surpassed (but not replaced) by the Mystery teaching. Dr. Martin's article, "[The Mystery and the New Covenant](#)" show the differences of the latter two teachings.

Universal Salvation Was Taught Before the Mystery Was Revealed

All New Testament writers knew about universal salvation from the Old Testament. It was taught in the Gospel of Luke, Romans, First Corinthians, and elsewhere, all before the Mystery was given. The Mystery announced to the world additional teaching beyond the salvation of all human beings. One purpose was to announce it to spirit beings in the heavenlies ...

"to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world has been HID in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: the intent [was] that NOW unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church [ekklesia] the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal [eonian] purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord."

• Ephesians 3:9–11

No one had ever been told this information. No spirit beings knew it, only God and Christ. This offended many, yet God kept secrets from those who thought they knew all that could be known from God. They thought Paul was lying.

¹ Christ announced the New Covenant at the last supper before He was arrested (Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:25; 2 Corinthians 3:6; and Hebrews 8:8, 9:15).

The New Information in the Mystery

“... by revelation he made known unto me [Paul] the mystery; (as I wrote before in few words [probably referring to Romans chapter 16], Whereby, when you read [it], you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

Which in other ages [generations] **was NOT made known** unto the sons of men, **as it is NOW revealed** unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That **the Gentiles** [1] **should be fellow heirs**, and [2] **of the same body**, and [3] **partakers of His** [God's] **promise in Christ by the gospel.**”

• **Ephesians 3:3–6**²

The Mystery tells us that the same glory to be enjoyed by believers of Israel will be enjoyed by Gentile believers, but many will not serve God on earth. Those who learn the Mystery will have a reward that will be different. This was shocking to many who thought it could not be true. The Mystery reveals the eventual status ALL believers “**in Christ**” will receive:

“**For in him** [Christ] **dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, AND YOU ARE COMPLETE IN HIM, which** [Who] **is the head of all** [every] **principality and power.**”

Colossians 2:9–10

Equality Among People

There was a form of equality in the New Covenant among believers that was taught by the apostles and disciples of Christ (Acts chapters 8 and 10). The *ekklesias* learned that the Gentiles were equally and fully saved just like Israelites. Equality was powerfully taught by Paul in Galatians 3:28–29, 5:6, and in Romans 10:11–13 (quoting Joel 2:32). Before the Mystery, equality of the final reward for all was ambiguous, even though Paul described our glorified resurrection bodies in 1 Corinthians 15:35–58.

The rewards of the Old Covenant, New Covenant, and Mystery each have their own glory,³ yet the Mystery tells us there will be total equality for ALL children of God as the full and final reward. With the Mystery God had no social, class, slave/free, male/female, or economic distinctions regarding salvation of Israelites and Gentiles. This complete equality “**in Christ**” offended nearly everyone. It could not be true, yet it was what God taught Paul to teach.

Through Peter and John, after God’s Holy Spirit worked in their hearts to understand the Mystery was true, the *ekklesias* slowly came to understand the truth. Read Chapter 15, “[The Book of Acts and New Testament History](#),” and Chapter 18, “[The Authority to Canonize The New Testament](#)” from Dr. Martin’s book [Restoring the Original Bible](#).

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² Paul’s teaching is similar in Colossians 1:26–27:

“**Even the mystery which has been HID from** [previous] **ages** [*aions*] **and from generations, but NOW is made manifest to his saints: 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.**”

³ One difference is that those of the Mystery will be among the celestials (the heavenlies). Today that realm is called outer space. We will help Christ reconcile the billions of spirit beings, the principalities and powers, who resist Christ when He returns to earth.