



The Secret Revealed

Ephesians 3:1-13

Two different times in this letter, Paul reminds his readers that he is a prisoner (Eph. 3:1; 4:1), and at the close he calls himself an “ambassador in bonds” (Eph. 6:20). No doubt the Ephesians wondered “Why is Paul a prisoner in Rome? Why would God permit such a thing?” In the first half of chapter 3, Paul explains his situation and, in doing so, also explains one of the greatest truths in this letter, the “mystery” of the church. In the New Testament, a *mystery* is not something eerie or inscrutable, but rather “a truth that was hidden by God in times past and is now revealed to those who are in His family.” A *mystery* is a “sacred secret” that is unknown to those who do not believe, but understood and treasured by the people of God.

Take a look at who this “mystery” was important to:

A. It Was Important to _____ 3:1-7

Because he was a _____ (3:1)

Because he was a _____ (3:2)

Because he was a _____ (3:7)

B. It Was Important to the _____ 3:6-8

They became _____ with _____ (3:6)

They became _____ of one _____ (3:6)

They became _____ in the _____ of Christ (3:6)

They were given _____ to the _____ of Christ (3:8)

C. It Was Important to the _____ 3:9-10

D. It Should Be Important to all _____ 3:11-13