

October 9, 2022

## Ephesians

READ Ephesians 3:1-13 and 2: 11-22

### More blessings!

Paul was a prisoner of Christ for the sake of the Gentiles.

- Ephesians 3:1 What is God using in your suffering for His good? \_\_\_\_\_
- **In Christ**, there is peace knowing that God is always in control.
  - John 16:33 **AMPC**
  - Ephesians 3:13
- **In Christ**, we can approach God with confidence and freedom.
  - Ephesians 3:12
  - Hebrews 4:16 **AMPC**
- **In Christ**, there is no condemnation.
  - Romans 8:1

### The mystery – the gospel

God gave Paul the responsibility to share His mystery of the gospel.

- Ephesians 3:2-5

The “mystery” is something that was hidden but now revealed by Holy Spirit.

- Ephesians 3:5-6
- Ephesians 2:15-18, Eph.1:9

God’s mystery was that the gospel is for all people.

- Ephesians 2:6 We all have joint seating with Jesus **in Christ: Where \_\_\_\_\_?**
- Galatians 3:6-7
- The gospel unifies.
- The gospel is **powerful to save us through faith.**
  - Romans 1:16-17
- The gospel is God’s plan revealed by Him.

Paul considered himself a servant\minister of the gospel.

- Ephesians 3:7
- Philippians 2:12-13 **AMPC**

Paul considered himself an unworthy messenger of the gospel.

- Ephesians 3:8
- God can use anybody for His purpose! That includes you
- **How is He using you to share the gospel and who to?**
- \_\_\_\_\_

### The mystery – the church

God gave Paul the responsibility to share His mystery of the church.

- Ephesians 3:10
- The church is a reflection of God’s manifold wisdom.
- God didn’t intend for salvation and our role in the church to be separated.
- We’re born again into Christ and into the body of Christ, the church.
- Jesus died so all believers could be one in Christ.

The church is designed to be a glimpse into heaven.

- Revelation 7:9-10 Every tribe and tongue praising..
- God uses the church to reveal His eternal plan of all things under Christ to the world and to the heavenly realms.
  - Hebrews 10:25 **AMPC admonish (warning, urging, encouraging> Where are you plugged into the Body of Christ and what is your ministry?**

### Action Steps

- Praise God for who He is and His spiritual blessings.
- Share the gospel with someone this week.
- Invite someone to join us next week, either someone who has never worshiped with us before or someone who hasn’t been with us for a while.
- Read Ephesians 3 for next week.

### **Ephesians 3:10-11**

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 16:33 I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]  
AMPC: Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us then fearlessly *and* confidently *and* boldly draw near to the throne of grace (the throne of God's unmerited favor to us sinners), that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good time for every need [appropriate help and well-timed help, coming just when we need it].

### **Phil 2:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my dear ones, as you have always obeyed [my suggestions], so now, not only [with the enthusiasm you would show] in my presence but much more because I am absent, work out (cultivate, carry out to the goal, and fully complete) your own salvation with reverence *and* awe and trembling (self-distrust, <sup>Ⓜ</sup>with serious caution, tenderness of conscience, watchfulness against temptation, timidly shrinking from whatever might offend God and discredit the name of Christ).

<sup>13</sup> [Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while <sup>Ⓜ</sup>effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure *and* satisfaction *and* <sup>Ⓜ</sup>delight.

**Heb 10:25** Not forsaking *or* neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.