

## EPHESIANS CHAPTER 3:1-13- GOSPEL MYSTERY, WISDOM, PURPOSE AND BOLDNESS

- I. PAUL'S CREDENTIALS OF APOSTLESHIP - vs. 1, 2 - "For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles — if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you . . ."
  - A. Vs. 1: "For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles . . ."
  - B. Vs. 2: "if indeed you have heard of the dispensation [stewardship] of the grace of God which was given to me for you,"
  
- II. PAUL'S REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY- vs. 3-9 - "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;"
  - A. Vs. 3, 4: "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),"
  - B. Vs. 5, 6: "which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,"

- C. Vs. 7-9: “of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;”

III. GOD’S WISDOM AND PURPOSE - Vs. 10, 11 - “to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,”

- A. Vs. 10: “to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*,”

- B. Vs. 11: “according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,”

IV. OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE - Vs. 12, 13: “in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.”

- A. Vs. 12: “in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.”

- B. Vs. 13: “Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.”