

The Mysteries Of God Part I

1Co 4:1 Let a man so account of us, **as of the ministers of Christ**, and **stewards of the mysteries of God**.

1Co 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Definitions:

- 1) Minister: one who serves under direction of another; one who ministers the things of God to people.
- 2) Steward: one who manages the affairs of the owner.
- 3) Mystery: in Scripture, a previously hidden truth now made known by divine revelation, yet still not fully understandable.

Dan 12:8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall be* the end of these *things*?

Dan 12:9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

Dan 12:10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

An example is New Testament grace. This was a mystery to the Old Testament prophets.

1Pe 1:9 Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of *your* souls.

1Pe 1:10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you:

1Pe 1:11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

1Pe 1:12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

The O.T. prophets wrote of the grace that was to come but didn't understand what they were writing. It was a mystery to them.

The mysteries could be called the "meat" of the Word (1 Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:14).

We are to know them (2 Tim. 2:15)..We learn from God "in darkness" (Matt. 10:24-28)...These are the "dark sayings" of God (Prov. 1:6)

To know the mysteries of God is to know the plan and program of God. (Matt. 13:9-17)

Also realize that we don't have to fully understand a mystery to believe it. If God said it, then that should settle the matter for the Christian (Rom. 3:3-4).

Mystery # 1 The Trinity

Col 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

Col 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of **the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;**

Col 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Col 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

One of the best illustrations of this would be an egg. An egg consists of the shell, the white and the yoke. All three perform separate functions but all are part of the egg.

Gen 1:27 **So God created man in his own image**, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

We see that God created man in his own image. This means that man would be a three part being as well.

1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body* be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Man consists of spirit, soul and body. We are in God's image therefore we are also triune beings.

**God the Father is God---Eph. 6:23

**God the Son is God---John 1:1 & John 1:14...John 10:30...Isa. 9:6.

**God the Spirit is God---2 Cor. 3:3; 2 Cor. 3:17.

In Genesis 1:1 "God" is plural (in Hebrew Elohim) and in verse 26 of Genesis chap 1 He refers to Himself as "us".

In Deut. 6:4 He is called "one LORD".

The Trinity is prevalent in many Old Testament passages.

Isa 48:12 Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; **I am he; I am the first, I also am the last.**

Isa 48:16 Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; **from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.**

Isa 48:17 Thus saith **the LORD, thy Redeemer**, the Holy One of Israel; I *am* the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way *that* thou shouldest go.

The LORD (Jehovah) is the same as the Redeemer (Jesus Christ)

*Who did the Father send? None other than Jesus.

Joh 5:36 But I have greater witness than *that* of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, **that the Father hath sent me.**

The most popular verse for the Trinity is found in 1 John 5:7:

1Jo 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Mystery # 2--- The Incarnation

1Ti 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

The Word, which was God (Jn 1:1), was made flesh (Jn 1:14) and "dwelt among us". God "took on him the seed of Abraham" (Heb. 2:16) and became a man as one of us.

Jesus was God wrapped in human flesh (Rom. 8:3).

Phi 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Phi 2:6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

Phi 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Phi 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Why did Jesus do that?

Heb 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and **without shedding of blood is no remission.**

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; **that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; **who for the joy that was set before him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

He did it all for you and I.

Jesus was delivered unto death for our offences and raised from the dead for our justification (Rom. 4:25).

God in the person of Christ, paid for our sins with His own blood (Acts 20:28). It was God Himself who paid for our sins. This is the mystery!

God sees the Christian as He sees Jesus. (1 John 4:17) We don't have to be afraid in the day of judgment when it relates to our salvation. God will see the blood of Jesus on us and that will be sufficient.

Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, **who was made a little lower than the angels** for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; **that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.**

While we know and believe what Jesus gave up for us, we still can't explain it.

Mystery # 3---The Resurrection of Christ

Col 4:2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

Col 4:3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

Why was Paul in bonds? Why was in constantly in jail? Because he was called a "a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:18)

Act 17:32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this *matter*.

Act 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

Act 24:14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

Act 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

Act 24:21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day.

Buddha is dead. Mohammed is dead. Confucius is dead. Zoroaster is dead. Joseph Smith is dead. Mary Baker Glover Patterson Eddy is dead. JESUS IS ALIVE!

Only Jesus has come back from the dead. He ever liveth (Heb. 7:25). He was dead, but is alive forevermore (Rev. 1:18).

Luke 2:34 states that Christ's resurrection would be spoken against. The sign is the resurrections.

Luk 11:29 And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, **but the sign of Jonas the prophet.**

Luk 11:30 For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, **so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.**

What was the sign? Jonah in a whale's belly for 3 days and three nights as a type of the resurrection of Christ.

Act 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Act 2:24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Act 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

Act 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

The resurrection of Christ proves His diety (Rom 1:4). Jesus said that "because I live, ye shall live also" (John 14:19).

1Co 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

1Co 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION, YOU ARE WITHOUT HOPE AND CANNOT BE SAVED....