

Sermon Notes

Themes from Ephesians

“The Mystery Revealed” – Ephesians 3:1-13

I. Introduction

A. Chapter three references a “mystery.”

1. Contemporary English –
2. Greek is *mysterion* and means the mystery is not knowable and only revealed to a select few.
3. Ancient cults
 - a. Initiation rites

B. The Text

1. Ephesians 3:1-11

II. Exposition

A. Key words and phrases

1. “Mystery” used 3 times in verses 3, 4, & 9.
2. What is the mystery?
3. The mystery revealed in the past – Genesis 12:3
4. The mystery now revealed.
 - a. No alliance between Jew & Gentile.
 - b. No friendly agreement between Jew & Gentile.
 - c. No combination between Jew & Gentile.
 - d. No partnership between Jew & Gentile.
 - e. Rather a permanent f_____.
5. Controversy of Acts 1-15.
 - a. Jesus + anything is heresy. Galatians 1:6-9.

6. Look closely at verse 6.

- a. Three composite expressions which are very difficult to translate.
 1. Note NIV and NASV.
- b. Looking at these three.
 1. Fellow heirs –
 2. Fellow member of the body –
 3. Fellow partaker of the promise in Christ –

B. Summation of History – Ephesians 2:10-11

1. Is history useful or useless?
 - a. Henry Ford thought useless.
 - b. However, the Bible is very historical.
2. Note “angels” – the great audience in heaven.

I Peter 1:12; I Cor. 11:10; I Tim. 5:21, Hebrews 1:14

- a. John MacArthur
- b. John Stott

C. Paul’s imprisonment.

1. Ephesians 3:1,13
 - a. His words of encouragement.

D. Bold access

1. Ephesians 3:12
 - a. The ultimate good news.

III. Point for Reflection

- A. The mystery revealed. Gentiles have always been in the plan to be included, but now they are rooted in Christ and not Israel (the nation) itself.