

The Mystery

August 8, 2021

Ephesians 3:4-11, *“When you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel... To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given..., and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things... This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which God carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Genesis 2:7, *“The Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”*

Genesis 2:22; 24, *“The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”*

Revelation 19:7, *“The marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.”*

1. She was flawless. Psalm 8:4-5, *“What is man that You take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than God, and You crown him with glory and majesty!”*

2. She was Adam’s body.

3. Adam was the source of Eve’s life.

4. She was always in him.

5. Eve was Adam’s glory.

1 Corinthians 11:7, *“The woman is the glory of man.”*

Ephesians 5:31-32, *“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.”*

John 17:24, *“You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”*

John 14:31, *“I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me.”*

1 Corinthians 15:45, “*The first man, Adam, became a living soul.’ The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.*”

Colossians 2:9-15, “*For in Christ all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Christ you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; and in Christ you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Christ through faith in the working of God, who raised Jesus from the dead. When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. When He had disarmed the (demonic) rulers and authorities, God made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Jesus Christ the Son.*”

Ephesians 5:25-27, “*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.*”

1. The church is flawless. 2 Corinthians 5:17; 21, “*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. God made Jesus who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Christ.*”

2. The church is Christ’s body. Romans 8:16-17, “*The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may be glorified with Him.*”

3. Christ is the source of His bride’s life. Colossians 1:26-27, “*The mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints...this mystery among the Gentiles, is Christ IN you, the hope of glory.*”

4. The bride and body of Christ was hidden in the Son before creation. Ephesians 1:3-4, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.*”

5. The church is the glory of Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:40-41, “*There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for each differs from each in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead.*”