

The Mystery Revealed

Colossians 1:26-27

26 ***that is, the mystery, which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,***

27 ***to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.***

This is the most beautiful and most important verse in all of the New Testament.

WHY? Because it explains...

WHY all the other blessings are given to everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST in the Church Age;

WHY the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit;

WHY THE GRACE MEANS OF BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT;

WHY Spiritual Love;

WHY the 34 things you received at the point of Faith in JESUS CHRIST.

26 ***That is the mystery which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations,***

has been hidden Is the *perfect passive participle* of a picturesque compound verb made up of the prefix *apo* which means from or away from; And the verb meaning *to hide*—to hide away, that is to conceal.

Firstly, WHO is doing the hiding or concealing?

God.

Secondly, WHY?

WHY DID GOD HIDE THIS TRUTH FROM PAST DISPENSATIONS?

This verb means **to hide** “*with a benevolent purpose*”.

God hides this truth of the mystery because this information would not have benefited past dispensations; in fact, it would have confused them as to the total Plan of God.

This is the consummative use of the **Perfect Tense**, which means (*connotes*) that the action is completed. This **Perfect Tense** puts emphasis on the past—now completed, which means this mystery is no longer hidden. The **Passive Voice** means that the mystery has received being hidden and should be translated...

26 **having been concealed or having been hidden from the past ages**

I am always interested in those people who claim not to believe in dispensations but do claim to understand phrases like this:
past ages

This is a prepositional phrase **from, away from the ages and from the generations.**

Ages in the plural, refers to all past dispensations.

“Age of the Gentiles” and “Age of Israel (Adam to JESUS CHRIST)”

and away from generations

It generally refers to a race or posterity.

With no other such reference, I believe this includes **all races and angelic beings.** Neither man nor angels knew this mystery until God decided it was to be revealed supernaturally.

but now This phrase introduces a most dramatic contrast; it is used here to introduce a strong contrast between the Church Age and all previous dispensations.

has been manifested to His saints, This time we have the **Aorist Passive Indicative** of the Greek word meaning **to reveal.**

What is interesting here is to compare declining of the verbs.

Having been concealed	Has been manifested
Perfect: Now completed	Aorist: Now manifested
Passive: Mystery received being hidden	Passive: Mystery now received... being revealed
Participle: Force of an adjective: sealed completed.	The Indicative mood: Emphasizes the historical reality that the mystery has now been revealed.

None of the Old Testament deals with the mystery of the Church Age. It was completely unknown to them.

In fact, **Matthew, Mark and Luke** all deal with the dispensation of Israel. And when one is interpreting these books this is vital to remember. And even in the **Book of John**, the closest you come to the Church Age mystery is in the upper room in **John**, chapters 14, 15 and 16.

And even here, JESUS CHRIST prophecies concerning the Church Age, what will happen in the near future. **The mystery is Christ!**

Matthew, Mark and Luke

do not deal with the Church Age.

John

Prophecy of the Church Age by JESUS CHRIST

Acts

Is primarily historical.

The Epistles to the Church by Paul, John, Peter, Jude and the book of Hebrews

Are all devoted to the mystery of the Church Age and it is imperative that the Pastor-Teacher proclaim all that God has revealed concerning the mystery of Christ in you!

Revelation

Is primarily devoted to the Tribulation, Second Advent and introduces Eternity Future.

Colossians 1:26

26 ***that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations***
but has now been manifested to His saints,

Regardless of what the Roman Catholic Church says and practices, every individual who believes in JESUS CHRIST as Savior is a **saint**; that is, they are **set apart** in Christ for all eternity.

Question:

How is the mystery revealed?

The answer to this important question is found in the plan of JESUS CHRIST in the Local Churches, where a man with the gift of Pastor-Teacher studies and teaches the Word of God—the mystery.

And believers who are serious and positive to learning the mystery faithfully and consistently come and listen and learn the mystery.

Again, it is your responsibility to find a Pastor-Teacher who studies and teaches the Word of God and then faithfully come and listen to the teaching.

27 **to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

I don't want you to miss something very important as we work our way through Colossians — and that is the point of emphases made by God the Holy Spirit on God the Father.

Verse 1 >	By the will of God,
Verse 2 >	From God, our Father;
Verse 3 >	Thanks to God, the Father of our LORD JESUS CHRIST
Verse 10 >	Increasing in the Knowledge of God
Verse 11 >	His glorious might
Verse 12 >	Giving thanks to the Father Also, in Verse 12 Who has qualified us to share in the inheritance
Verse 13 >	He, God the Father, has rescued us from the domain of darkness And, not only did God rescue us from the domain of darkness but transferred us to the kingdom of His Beloved Son
Verse 15 >	The invisible God
Verse 19 >	It was the Fathers good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell Him
Verse 25 >	According to the dispensation from in God Also, Verse 25 Preaching of the Word of God
Verse 27 >	To whom God willed to make known

Just from 27 verses of Colossians 1 we have built quiet a THEOLOGY OF GOD.

- ¹ He is invisible.
- ² He is the Father of JESUS CHRIST.
- ³ He is the Father of JESUS CHRIST.
- ⁴ He is our father.
- ⁵ We address thanksgiving to Him.
- ⁶ We are to spend our entire lives increasing in the Knowledge of God.
- ⁷ God the Holy Spirit is His glorious might.
- ⁸ He qualifies us, we do not qualify ourselves. (2 Corinthians 3:5)
- ⁹ He rescued us from the domain of darkness.
- ¹⁰ He transferred us to the Kingdom of His Son.
- ¹¹ It was His Good Pleasure to exult JESUS CHRIST to highest position.
- ¹² All the dispensations are designed by Him.
- ¹³ The bible is the Word of God.
- ¹⁴ It is by the will of God that we know the mystery that has been hidden in past dispensations.

We have been enriched by learning all this about God just in the first chapter of Colossians with more to come.

We will summarize all we learn about JESUS CHRIST when we have completed chapter 1.

27 **to whom God willed to make known**

Christian, God has done so much for us; We have studied here how it was God's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him but remember from our study in Isaiah 53:

10 **But the Lord** (God the Father) **was pleased to crush Him** (referring to JESUS CHRIST suffering on the cross during the three hours He paid for all the sins of the world. And He did this because) **in this way God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...that whosoever believes on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.** (And now we discover that it was God's will to make known the mystery to us.)

27 **to whom** referring to His saints from verse 26; This is who you are, **holy ones**, but remember this is **your position and because of your position sets up your opportunity!**

Note the flow:

Verse 25 **The Word of God**

Verse 26 **The Mystery**

Verse 27 **Us, His Saints**

The word **Saint** refers to the fact that we are in union with JESUS CHRIST by Baptism of the Holy Spirit—part of the mystery.

God willed And for this we can give Him daily thanks

This is the *Aorist Active Indicative* **thello**, which refers to will, desire; here it means decree.

To whom God decreed

Ok Christian, you claim to love God?

Well here is something that He has decreed for you, therefore, this should be our life long priority—
to **learn it , believe it** and **live it**.

The *Aorist tense* refers to eternity past. He decreed that this mystery would be made known in the Church Age and He organized it where it would be written in His Word and be made known to believers by the Pastor-Teachers.

The *Active voice* is used to emphasize that this is a decision by God and the *Indicative Mood* is the historical reality of this mystery doctrine (Ministry of the Holy Spirit) made known in the

Church Age by Pastor-Teachers who study and teach the mystery doctrines.

27 **to whom God willed to make known**

This is the *Aorist Active Infinitive* of the verb that means just that: to make known or to reveal. The Holy Spirit does not use verbs, usually, referring to teaching, because this word introduces the Principle of *revelation*.

The point is that here it is; God has revealed this mystery.

It is up to each the Pastor-Teacher to study and teach it and it is up to every individual Christian to get under a Pastor-Teacher who is teaching what God has revealed.

27 **to whom God willed to make known
what is the riches of the glory**

Ok, people, here is one you will not like. You want to know what *real wealth* is?... What real riches are?

The **Doctrines of the mystery in your souls!**

It is amazing how we work all our lives, and some people seem to accumulate more wealth than others, etc. But here is real wealth from God's perspective! Here is wealth that you can take with you when you die! You cannot take a dime of all the earthly wealth you accumulate in your life, but on the other hand you can take every precious stone of doctrine you have learned on earth with you when you die!

Ever hear that expression: ‘you can’t take it with you’?

Well, YES YOU CAN; you can take all the riches that you store up in your soul.

What is the riches As **Louw and Nida** ...

{{{ The Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament based on Semantic Domains, commonly referenced as simply "Louw-Nida," provides information about a word based on its semantic domain or context. Rather than an alphabetical listing of dictionary definitions for all forms, it provides a listing of topics and sub-topics, by contextual meaning and lists the words that apply to that meaning.

Think of the difference between a bear (the animal), and to bear a burden. We often use the same word for completely different meanings. So did the Greeks. Louw and Nida have provided us with a lexicon of meanings to help us determine the difference, each one individually numbered for easy reference.}}}

...in their Greek English Lexicon point out this refers to both **rich value** and **abundance**. You will never learn all there is to learn in this mystery of the Church Age.

of the glory That is the greatness, the radiance and you want to know exactly to what this glory is referring?

Christ in you!

of this mystery

Here is something you may have to think about. The word mystery is in the *genitive case* and here it refers to *genitive of*

possession! The mystery possesses the glory of JESUS CHRIST in you!

among the Gentiles, Oh, this is so rich in itself. If you are a Jew saved either in the age of Israel or in the Church Age, this is an absolute powerful revelation in itself.

Here we should at least look at Gospel of John 10: where JESUS CHRIST prophesies about the coming in the Church Age in verse 16

16 **“I have other sheep, which are not of this fold;**

I must bring them also, and they will hear (Future) **My voice; and they will become** (In the near future) **one flock** (Mystery of the Church) **with one shepherd.** (Jesus the Christ.)

And, also, Ephesians 2:13-16

13 **But now** (Get ready for some of the riches of the mystery) **in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off** (Gentiles) **have been brought near by the blood of Christ.** (That is, by His Spiritual Death on the cross.)

14 **For He Himself is our peace,** (more riches of the mystery) **who made both *groups*** (Jew and Gentile believers) ***into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,***

15 **by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances,** (Do you see it? JESUS CHRIST abolished the 10 Commandments and all the Mosaic Law) **so that in Himself He might make the two** (Jew and Gentile) **into one new man,** (more riches of the mystery) ***thus establishing peace,***

16 **and might reconcile them both** (Jew and Gentile) **in one body to God** (more riches of the mystery) **through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.** (That is the Law.)

Colossians 1:27

27 **to whom** (saints) **God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles,**

What is also important here is that Jews no longer have the sole responsibility and privilege of disseminating the Word of God.

This is now the responsibility and privilege of The Church, yet another of the riches of the mystery.

which is keeps on being.

Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**Only One Life 'Twill Soon Be Past
Only What's Done "In Christ"
(by the Filling of the Holy Spirit)
Will Last**