

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

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PART 4: THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

In the third chapter of Ephesians, Paul told the Christians in Ephesus that the atonement that Jesus made on the cross had its origin before the creation of the world. He called it the mystery of Christ. When Paul talked about being a prisoner of Christ, he referred back to the time he was apprehended by Jesus on the road to Damascus. Most likely he had shared the story sometime during his stay as the pastor of the church in Ephesus. **Ephesians 3:1; Acts 9:1-18**

THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

To fully understand this concept, we need to first do a background study.

1. The Bible teaches that God is eternal; He has always existed and will always exist with no beginning or end. **Deuteronomy 33:27; Isaiah 45:21-22; 46:9-10; Romans 1:20; Hebrews 13:8;**
2. Sometime in eternity past, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit made the decision to create mankind. **Genesis 1:26-27**
3. The decision was made in heaven before the creation to have Jesus be the sacrifice for the sin of the human race. **Revelation 13:8**
4. No one knew of the salvation plan which had been drawn up in heaven and it was not fully revealed until after Jesus' resurrection. **Ephesians 3:2-5; 1 Corinthians 2:6-8**
5. The great mystery was that God had a plan for the children of Israel but it also included all other nations on this earth. **verse 6**
6. Paul was ordained a minister to share this great news to the Gentiles. **verses 7-9**
7. The Church of Christ is now showing all angelic beings the great wisdom of God. **verses 10-11**
8. There is to be boldness from this truth. **verse 12; Hebrews 10:19-23**

EXHORTATION FROM PAUL

Because of this great truth having become known by Christians, Paul told the church in Ephesus to comprehend the breadth, length, depth and height of this glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. **Ephesians 3:13-21**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?

