

# 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 “The Fellowship of The Mystery”

## **Ephesians 3:8-12**

**8** To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

**9** and to make all see what is **the fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the ages has been **hidden in God** who created all things through Jesus Christ;

**10** to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*,

**11** according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

**12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

**6** However, **we speak wisdom** among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

**7** But **we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery**, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory,

**8** which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

- **We speak wisdom**

- **We speak a different language than the world does**

- **C.H. Spurgeon:** *“If you stand near telegraph wires you may often hear the mystic wailing and sighing of the winds among them, like the strains of an Aeolian harp, but you won't know anything of the message which is flashing among them. The inner language of those wires may be joyous, swift as lightning, far-reaching and full of meaning, but a stranger doesn't meddle with them. They become an apt emblem of the believer's inner life. Others hear our notes of outward sorrow wrung from us by external circumstances, but they can't perceive the message of celestial peace, the divine communings of a better land, the swift heartthrobs of heaven-born desire. The carnal see but the outer person, but the life hidden with Christ in God, flesh and blood cannot discern.”*

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, *The Quotable Spurgeon*, (Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, Inc, 1990)

- **Necessary to join this “fellowship of the Mystery”:**

- **Must be “Born Again”**

**Colossians 1:26-27**

**26** the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, **but now has been revealed to His saints.**

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

- **Child-like mind – full of faith, full of belief, full of trust**  
**Matthew 11:25** At that time Jesus answered and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have **revealed them to babes.**”

- **“In a Mystery”**
- **“Hidden Wisdom”**
- **“None . . . knew”**
- *Again here is this word mystery. Let’s be clear on this word. It has no reference to what we commonly think of as an enigma or with a “who-done-it”—that is, a story dealing with the solution of a mysterious crime. It is not something of a secretive quality or character.*
  - The word **“mystery,”** as used in the Scriptures, refers to something which was not known in the past but is now revealed.
  - This word occurs about **twenty-seven times** in the New Testament. <sup>1</sup>

- **Our Lord used it when He said:**

**Matthew 13:10-13**

**10** And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”

**11** He answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

**12** For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

**13** Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

- **The parables that follow in Matthew 13** are the **“mystery parables.”** Why are they called the mystery parables? It is because in them Jesus explains the direction that the kingdom is going to take in the interval between the rejection of the King and the time when He comes to set up His kingdom. That segment of history was actually not revealed in the Old Testament at all. God had not yet revealed that to men. **When Jesus spoke the mystery parables in Matthew 13, He was revealing this for the first time. What had been previously hidden, Jesus revealed.**

**9** But as it is written: *“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

- Most scholars not exactly sure where Paul picked up this reference
- May be a compilation of several verses from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup>McGee, J. V. (1997, c1981). *Thru the Bible commentary*. Based on the Thru the Bible radio program. (electronic ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**Isaiah 64:4** For since the beginning of the world *Men* have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.

**Isaiah 65:17** “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

**Isaiah 52:15** So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider.

- ***“Oh, when we meet in heaven, we shall see how little we knew about it on earth.”*** -- Payson

**10** But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, **the deep things of God.**

**Romans 11:33-36**

**33** Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

**34** “For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?”

**35** “Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?”

**36** For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

- **Paul’s point here is that:**
  - **The Holy Spirit has plumbed the full depths of God’s wisdom and**
  - **Has determined to reveal those mysteries to the Saints now.**
- **If you do not understand the Deity of Christ Jesus then you do not have the Holy Spirit**
  - **Not a deity (Mormonism)**
  - **The Only Deity (Christianity)**
- **You must be “Born Again”!**
  - **Not of flesh**
  - **Born of Spirit**
- **“The Spirit is the organ of understanding between man and God” (Findlay).<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>2</sup>Robertson, A. (1997). *Word Pictures in the New Testament*. Vol.V c1932, Vol.VI c1933 by Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. (1 Co 2:10). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems.