Sunday, March 28, 2021

Intended for God's Purpose

Ephesians 3:1-12

David H. McKinley

• • •

[1]For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf
of you Gentiles—[2]assuming that you have heard of the
stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, [3]how
the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have
written briefly. [4]When you read this, you can perceive my
insight into the mystery of Christ, [5]which was not made known
to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been
revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.
[6]This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of
the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus
through the gospel. [7]Of this gospel I was made a minister
according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by
the working of His power. [8]To me, though I am the very least
of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles
the unsearchable riches of Christ, [9]and to bring to light for
everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages
in God, who created all things, [10]so that through the church
the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known
to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. [11]This
was according to the eternal purpose that He has realized in
Christ Jesus our Lord, [12]in whom we have boldness and access
with confidence through our faith in Him. [13]So I ask you not to
lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.
—Ephesians 3:1-13

"mystery" *musterion* (Gk) = "something beyond natural knowledge, but has been opened to us by divine revelation through the Holy Spirit." —R. Kent Hughes

1. The Mystery of _____

"Our lives are shaped not just by what we suffer, but by what we bring to our suffering. What you think about yourself, life, God, and others will profoundly affect the way you think about, interact with, and respond to the difficulty that comes your way." —Paul David Tripp

Notes:

Jesus did not suffer so that we will not suffer, but that in our suffering we will not lose hope.

[18]For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us… [28]And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. —Romans 8:18, 28

[51]Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, [52]in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. [53]For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. [54]When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." [55]"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" —1 Corinthians 15:51-55

2. The Mystery of _____

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. —1 Peter 4:10

3. The Mystery of _____

… "Marvel of marvels, God, in Christ, woos the rebel back; pours out unlimited love that the rebel can't resist. Rebels respond in love and obedience and God creates a new people who live together in a relationship of love and forgiveness—that's the church." —Maxie Dunham

[20]Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, [21]to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. —Ephesians 3:20-21

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

David H. McKinley, Pastor-Teacher

davidhmckinley.com

Notes: