

Seven Mysteries of the New Covenant Church

I. Mystery One - God's Incarnation.

1 Tim 3:16 And by common confession great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Beheld by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

- A. The apostles were entrusted the understanding and declaration of this mystery (1 Corinthians 2:7).
- B. New Covenant mysteries are understood by Spirit led Disciples (Ephesians 1:12-14)

II. Mystery Two - Salvation of Jew and Gentile by God's Grace.

Eph 3:7-12 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power. (8) To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, (9) and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; (10) so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*. (11) *This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, (12) in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

- A. All gathered into one body
- B. Old Covenant divides; New Covenant unites (Romans 9:24, Galatians 3:7-8)
- C. New Covenant Faith (1 Timothy 3:9)
- D. The Jews would be hardened to it (Romans 11:25)

III. Mystery Three – The Sudden Apostasy and Iniquity of the Primitive Faith.

2 Thess. 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.

- A. Princes of this world usually hate the Prince of Peace (I Corinthians 2:6).
- B. How to be evil, yet religious (John 3:20, 12:36, I Timothy 4:1-6)
- C. The Apostate Prostitute (Revelation 17:7)

IV. Mystery Four - Christ's Resurrection as the First Fruits of Those at His Coming.

1 Cor. 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

- A. Incorruptible (1 Corinthians 15:51)
- B. A grain in view of the Harvested Multitudes (John 12:24) Those at His coming (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; Mark 4:26-29).
- C. The End (Revelation 10:7)

V. Mystery Five - Christ's Marriage to His Bride and The Oneness of Matrimony.

Eph 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. (32) This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

Matt 25:6 "But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet *him*.'

A. We are espoused to Him.

2 Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you *as* a pure virgin.

B. He is coming to take us home.

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

C. Proposal, courtship, espousal, processional, and marriage are all portrayed in what we call marriage.

D. Today marriage is an event – Biblical marriage was a process.

VI. Mystery Six - God's Eternal Program of Redeeming and Justifying Humanity.

A. This mystery (symbolized by the only Christian symbol—the cross) is placed before the world; but also hidden from them (1 Corinthians 2:7, 8, Ephesians 3:9-11).

1 Cor. 2:7-8 but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God predestined before the ages to our glory; (8) *the wisdom* which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;

Eph 3:9-11 and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; (10) so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*. (11) *This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

VII. Mystery Seven - Christ in You/ Regeneration.

Colossians 1:26-28 *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. (28) And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.

Titus 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

A. Birth of water and Spirit.

John 3:5-8 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (6) "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. (7) "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' (8) "The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

B. Possession of Eternal Life.

Col 4:3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned;

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1 Cor. 2:7 but we speak God's wisdom in a **mystery**, the hidden *wisdom* which God predestined before the ages to our glory;

- B. New Covenant mysteries are understood by Spirit led Disciples.

Eph 1:12-14 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. (13) In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, (14) who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

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- A. All gathered into one body

- B. Old Covenant divides; New Covenant unites (Romans 9:24, 11:11, Galatians 3:7-8, 5:14)

Rom 9:24 *even* us, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles.

Gal 3:7-8 Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. (8) The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU."

- C. New Covenant Faith.

1 Tim. 3:9 *but* holding to the **mystery** of the faith with a clear conscience.

- D. The Jews would be hardened to it.

Rom 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this **mystery**—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

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2 Thess. 2:7 For the **mystery** of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.

- A. Princes of this world usually hate the Prince of Peace.

1 Cor. 2:6 Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away;

- B. How to be evil, yet religious.

John 3:20 "For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

John 12:36 "While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light." These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them.

1 Tim. 4:1-6 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, (3) *men* who forbid marriage *and advocate* abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. (4) For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; (5) for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer. (6) In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

C. The Apostate Prostitute.

Rev 17:7 And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the **mystery** of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

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A. A grain in view of the Harvested Multitudes.

John 12:24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit

Mark 4:26-29 And He was saying, "The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil; (27) and goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts up and grows—how, he himself does not know. (28) "The soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head. (29) "But when the crop permits, he immediately puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

B. Those at His coming.

1 Thess 4:15-18 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. (17) Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. (18) Therefore comfort one another with these words.

C. The End. **Rev 10:7** but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the **mystery** of God is finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets.

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