

Sunday
6th November, 2011

**Called to
reveal
mysteries**

Ps Peter Nicholes
Morning service

A Mystery is ...

Something hidden
Or
Not yet revealed

It is a secret

Jesus' Disciples

*“You are permitted to understand
the secret of the Kingdom of God.
But I use parables for everything I say to outsiders”*

Mark 5:11 NLT

Given permission to understand

God is the revealer of mysteries

Daniel 2

- *Nebuchadnezzar wanted the interpretation to a dream he had forgotten **vs 1***
- *He want to wise men for the interpretation and they will die **vs 5***
- *No one on earth can interpret this except the gods **vs 11***
- *Daniel went to God for the secret to be revealed **vs 16***

Daniel on hearing the mystery/secret proclaimed

*20 ... "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;
wisdom and power are his.*

*21 He changes times and seasons;
he sets up kings and deposes them.*

*He gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to the discerning.*

*22 He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.*

*23 I thank and praise you, O God of my fathers:
You have given me wisdom and power,
you have made known to me what we asked of you,
you have made known to us the dream of the king."*

Daniel 2:20-23

Do you have the humility to carry it?

Daniel revealed the mystery - dream

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honour and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him.

47 The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."

Daniel 2:46-47

Mysteries take us - Acceleration

- Into high places of authority
- World wide influence
- Great wealth
- Positions of influence
 - *Eg Daniel, Joseph, David, Solomon*

Apostle Paul's understanding on Mysteries

- ¹ For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus
for the sake of you Gentiles—
² Surely you have heard about
the administration of God's grace
that was given to me for you,
³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation,
as I have already written briefly.
⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my
insight into the mystery of Christ,
⁵ which was not made known to men
in other generations as it has now been revealed
by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

Ephesians 3:1-5

Mystery was for Paul to reach the Gentiles

Characteristics of Mystery

1. *Prisoner of Jesus Christ to do it*
2. *Grace given to by Jesus to carry it out*
3. *Made known to you only by revelation*
4. *Receive insight into the mystery*
5. *It's not made known to others*
6. *It's revealed by the spirit to God's Apostles and Prophets*

The secret plan of God

The mystery is that people who have never heard of God and those who have heard of him all their lives (what I've been calling outsiders and insiders) stand on the same ground before God.

They get the same offer, same help, same promises in Christ Jesus.

The Message is accessible and welcoming to everyone, across the board. This is my life work: helping people understand and respond to this Message. It came as a sheer gift to me, a real surprise, God handling all the details.

When it came to presenting the Message to people who had no background in God's way, I was the least qualified of any of the available Christians.

Ephesians 3:6-7 msg

What's your mystery/message?

The qualifications to carry mysteries

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.

⁸ Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me:

to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished

in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

¹³ I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

Ephesians 3:7-13

Our responsibility to the mystery

1. Know where you come from – least of all
2. A servant that preaches the (message) Mystery
3. Make the mystery clear to everyone
4. So the church can display the mystery to the heavenly realms
5. We are accomplishing God's purpose
6. It's done with freedom and confidence
7. The Apostle who carries the mystery may suffer due to religion

We need to boldly explain God's Mystery

*¹⁹ Pray also for me,
that whenever I open my mouth,
words may be given me
so that I will fearlessly make known
the mystery of the gospel,*

Ephesians 6:19

*⁴ Pray that I may proclaim this mystery
as clearly as I should*

Colossians 4:4

Mystery of Christ

1. God sent his son to die for us
2. If you believe in your heart that Jesus his son died on the cross for you and God rose him from the dead, then you will be saved after you confess it to someone

Romans 10:9-10

3. The mystery is revealed and you are transformed. **Mystery of our Faith**

*¹⁶ Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith
Christ was revealed in a human body
and vindicated by the Spirit.
He was seen by angels and announced to the nations.
He was believed in throughout the world
and taken to heaven in glory.*

1 Timothy 3:16 NLT

Speak out the mysteries (messages)

**Salvation, School of the Prophets,
Courtship, Discipling, Manhood, Fathering,
Daughters of the King, Zion, Healing,
Fasting**

**New – wealth creation (business), church
planting**

The mysteries will rise in our hearts

*¹⁹ Because of that experience,
we have even greater confidence
in the message proclaimed by the prophets.
You must pay close attention to what they wrote,
for their words are like a lamp
shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns,
and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts.*

2 Peter 1:19 NIV

Our Ancient paths have become hidden (mysteries)

*¹⁶ This is what the LORD says:
“Stand at the crossroads and look;
ask for the ancient paths,
ask where the good way is,
and walk in it,
and you will find rest for your souls.
But you said,
‘We will not walk in it.’*

Jeremiah 6:16 NIV