



CELL GUIDE

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| TOPIC | The Mysteries of Godliness, the Church as the Body & Bride, and the Indwelling Godhead | SPEAKER | SP Daniel Foo |
| THEME | Mysteries Revealed to the Apostle Paul and the Church | DATE | 10 & 11 July 2021 |

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Last week in Part 1, SP Daniel Foo covered 2 mysteries revealed to Apostle Paul and the Church:
(1) Blindness of Israel and how God suspended his dealings with them,
(2) Church = Jews & Gentiles.

This week, in Part 2, SP covers 3 more mysteries:

- (3) The Mystery of Godliness,
- (4) The Mystery of the Church as the Body and Bride of Christ,
- (5) The Mystery of The Godhead dwelling in the Believer.

God has revealed these mysteries because God wants us to experience His reality. He desires us to walk closer with Him and invites us into an intimate relationship with him.

THREE MYSTERIES REVEALED TO PAUL AND THE CHURCH

A. MYSTERY #3 – THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS (1 TIM 3:16)

- **God manifested in the flesh:** This refers to Jesus the son of God becoming the Son of Man - how can God come in human flesh? The virgin birth of Jesus is also a Mystery (Matt 1:18, 20-21). Jesus came in human form - He is in every way like us, except that He was without sin (John 1:1, 14), so that He can empathise with us. He was hurt, wept, wounded, tired and weary.
- **Jesus justified in the spirit:** Jesus the Son of Man was justified in 3 instances – (1) At His water Baptism (Luk 3:22) – He was affirmed by His Father God even before He began ministry. (2) At the Transfiguration of Jesus (Matt 17:5) when Jesus brought Peter, James and John up the mountain (3) Just after Jesus entered Jerusalem (Jn 12:28).
- **Jesus was seen by angels:** A multitude of the heavenly hosts worshipped in Heaven (Luk 2:10-13); the angels of God worship him (Heb 1:6); when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane, an angel appeared to Him from heaven and strengthened Him.
- **Jesus was preached among the Gentiles:** Paul expounded to the Gentiles who Lord Jesus is, where does salvation come from, and traced the events from creation and all the way when God has established boundaries (Acts 17:22-23)
- **Jesus was believed on in the world:** Paul says I am not ashamed of the gospel, it is the power of God to save all who believe (Rom 1:16).

- **Jesus was received up in glory** (Acts 1:9,11): After Jesus rose from the dead, he was on earth for 40 days preaching and teaching about the kingdom of God before being taken up to Heaven (Acts 9:11) where He is seated at the right hand of the Father God (Ps 110:1).

B. MYSTERY #4 – THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH AS BODY AND BRIDE OF CHRIST (Eph 5:30-32)

- **The Mystery of the Church as the Body of Christ:** Paul prays that the eyes of our heart will be opened that we may grasp the riches of the glory of God’s inheritance in the Church (Eph 1:18, 22-23). We are God’s inheritance and He delights in us and pours His mercy and grace to all who will receive it. We, as born again believers, are all members of one body connected to Christ which is the Head of the Body (Rom 12:4-5, 1 Cor 12:12-13, 27). As one body, we are all joint and knitted together to love and build each other up and grow in maturity in the fullness of Christ together (Ep 4:11-16). Thus, the Lord Jesus gave the five-fold ministry (apostles, prophets, pastors, evangelists and teachers) to strengthen the larger body of Christ.
- **The Mystery of the Church as the Bride of Christ:** Paul describes the church of Corinth as a chaste virgin betrothed to Christ (2 Cor 11:2-3). He gives the analogy of a husband and wife (Ep 5:21-32). We should be devoted to Christ, holding extremely tightly to the Word and Promises of God and our relationship with the Holy Spirit. Everything else we hold loosely because we live in a fallen imperfect world who will hurt and stumble us. Even in the husband-wife analogy, it is still a mystery. We are fallen human beings - how can Christ who is God have this type of relationship with us? But when we are in Christ, our fallenness is buried, atoned for under his precious blood – we are able to come to God with confidence and boldness and pursue a guilt free, no condemnation relationship with God.

C. MYSTERY #5 – THE MYSTERY OF THE GODHEAD DWELLING IN THE BELIEVER (COL 1:26-27)

- **Every believer is a temple of the Holy Spirit and God the Spirit dwells in us believers:** Paul talks about this as the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col 2:2-3). How can we have access to all these treasures?
- **Christ in every believer – every day we live by faith in Jesus (Gal 2:20):** As we grow deeper in God, in spiritual maturity, we are better able to relate to each person of the Godhead differently. When we follow Jesus and experience Him in us, He who is the light of the world will give us light (wisdom and insight)
- **Father-God is also in the believer:** After Calvary and Pentecost, when Jesus is in us and so the father-God is in us (Jn 14:23). We grow in relationship with the Father when we receive and experience His love and His Sovereignty.
- **The Holy Spirit in the believer after Pentecost (1 Cor 6:19-20):** When Jesus ascended to Heaven, He gave us the Holy Spirit who is exactly like the Father and Jesus. The Holy Spirit is the anointing in the believer and the presence of God in the believer that never leaves.

CONCLUSION

Let the mysteries that have been revealed to us today – the mystery of Godliness, the mystery of the Church as the Body and Bride of Christ, and the mystery of the Godhead dwelling in us (the hope of glory) (Col 1:26-27) be a reality that we live on a day to day basis. If God is in us, the battle belongs to him and we should always have hope even in the dire of circumstances. Let us grow in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit and overflow with hope and bring that hope to others. The purpose of understanding this mystery is for every one of us to experience more and more of the reality of God in our lives.

QUESTIONS

1. The sermon mentioned three mysteries that were revealed to the Apostle Paul and the Church. What is something that stood out to you amongst these three and why?

2. As the Church, we are the Body of Christ and the Bride of Christ. In what ways are you continually growing in your (a) relationship with other fellow Christian brothers and sisters (e.g. cell members) and (b) relationship with God?

3. The 3 persons in the Godhead – Father-God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit (who are perfectly One) dwell in us believers. How does this encourage you in your walk with the Lord or during your current season in life?