



#5 New Revelation [Ephesians 3:1-13]

#1 The HARDNESS Of Life

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— [Vs 1]

DIGRESSION [VS 2-12]

So I ask you not to **lose heart** over what I am **suffering** for you, which is your glory. [VS13]

“Lose Heart” = Greek = **ἐκκακέω** = To Be Discouraged. To Be Worn Out – Wearied - Dispirited

- Suffering & Hardship Will TEST Your Faith.

#2. The MYSTERY of Grace

...how the **mystery** was made known to me by revelation, [Vs 3] ...you can perceive my insight into the **mystery** of Christ [Vs 4]...This **mystery** is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs [Vs 6] ...what is the plan of the **mystery** hidden for ages in^{the} God [Vs 9]

Mystery=Greek= **μυστήριον** = An Astounding, Counter Intuitive Revelation

- The Great Mystery Was & Is - The GOSPEL Of Grace, By Which We Are Saved.

#3. The BRILLIANCE of The Church

so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, [Vs11-12]

- God’s Eternal Purpose Is To UNITE All Things In Christ

making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, **to unite all things in Christ**, things in heaven and things on earth in him. Ephesians 1: 9-10

“Under the new covenant the church is to be light not only to the nation of earth but to angels & demons in heavenly place”

so that through the church the **manifold** wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. [Vs:11-12]

Manifold = Greek = **Πολυποίκιλος** = Marked with a Great Variety of Color / Brilliant

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

- Do you enjoy a good mystery? Why or why not?

Read Ephesians 3:1-13.

- Paul takes a diversion between verses 1 and 3 to address the issue of his suffering. How has hardship and suffering tested your faith?
 - Why do you think it is so easy for us to “lose heart” [Vs 13] when we see people we love suffering?
 - What is the mystery that Paul is refereeing to [vs 3,4,6 &9]? Why do you think this is a mystery that had to be revealed?
 - Is the gospel of grace an astounding, counter intuitive wonder to you? Do you fully understand the wonder of God’s grace towards you?
 - In verse 10 Paul says: “..so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.” What do you think he means by that? How does it relate to what Peter says in 1 Peter 1:6.
 - Paul says; “In Christ Jesus, our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence” [vs 12] What do you think Paul is refereeing too?
 - How does Paul’s digression in vs. 2-12 help the Ephesians not “lose heart” over his suffering? How does it help you when you or a loved one is suffering?
- **Pray Ephesians 1: 17-23 over each other**

Source: Timoth Keller “Ephesians -Who is the Church” <https://gospelinlife.com/>
William Barclay “Ephesians” www.wjbbooks.com

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