

Terry Fullam Audio Library

Scriptural References and Comment Notes

16-012-1

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

2:20 – Ephesians 3:2 ff – Paul explains that he has been especially chosen to clarify the mysteries of Christ. He had been in Arabia for 3 years after his conversion and we don't know anything about that time except it can be conjectured that the Holy Spirit was preparing him to make Christ known.

5:50 – Ephesians 3:6 Part of the mystery was that the Gentiles were to be heirs to God's promises, especially the promise of Christ.

8:30 – The Jewish people had taken their "chosen" designation to mean a place of privilege rather than one for ministry and service. Thus they separated themselves from all those who were unclean, in their eyes – the non-Jews the uncircumcised. They promoted separation.

20:10 – Ephesians 2:13 The cross changed everything because now the non-chosen of old had become the chosen of the future. Gentiles and Jews together. No more separation in Christ – One in Christ.

24:00 – Even the Temple made the physical separation apparent.

16-012-1 Cont'd

35:00 – Diversity but not division. No strife leading to division from the unity in Christ.

36:25 – Christians exist for the sake of those still outside the family of God. Don't take your born again status as one of privilege and separate yourself from the unbelievers. Bring them in.

Eph. 3:2 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. 6 This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Eph. 3:7 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.

Eph. 2:11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.