

# The **MYSTERY** hidden in **GOD**



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## ...made **PLAIN** to **EVERYONE**

“Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: **to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and TO MAKE PLAIN TO EVERYONE the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. 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, according to HIS ETERNAL PURPOSE that he ACCOMPLISHED IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD**”

Ephesians 3:8-11 (NIV).

This mystery made plain by Paul some 2,000 years ago, is today, a deep secret buried and forgotten. After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a shift in power took place. The rogue rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm who were given rulership over the nations at the time of Babel, were overthrown by Christ and their power and responsibilities were given by Christ to the church. The mystery God kept hidden for ages was how these rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm would be tested, found guilty, overthrown, and a new loyal and enduring group of people—the church would be given their power and authority to teach the nations about God and bring all people into maturity to the full measure of Christ.

Paul’s reference to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm in the books of Corinthians, Ephesians, and Colossians did not surprise the Gentiles. The presence of the gods ruling the nations was felt; their oppression was burdensome; their practices were detestable. The divorced Gentiles had had enough; they were ready to return to their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Paul went to these people and from among them a transformed

group of people appeared. They became “THE CHURCH” and to this group of people the baton was passed to take the gospel of the kingdom of God to the world. The shift in power was accomplished through the accepted sacrifice of Christ. He won, through conquest, the power and authority once held by the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms and he gave it to the church to accomplish what the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm failed to do—teach all nations to worship their Creator and keep His commands. Today, the gods of old have become a myth. The remains of their ancient temples and statutes are a witness today of their existence. 21<sup>st</sup> Gentiles don’t believe in the Almighty Creator God nor do they believe in the gods of Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome and the many worshiped in countries all over the world. They will be surprised when rogue gods in heaven arrive after Satan is thrown to earth.

The ancient Israelites witnessed the presence of the gods. They distinguished their God from all others. Their God is the Almighty, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. What was common knowledge to the ancients is a myth for 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians. Yet, this fascinating story is told in the scriptures like pieces of a puzzle placed to be found for a later time for ALL to know.

Paul assembled the pieces and revealed the mystery to the Ephesians. 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians have forgotten Paul’s revelation and accepted the common teachings of the mythology of the gods. The responsibility given to the church is monumentally grand and this mystery needs to be uncovered and realized—**again**.

The story can be simply told.

**THERE EXISTS IN GOD’S HEAVENLY COUNCIL, MEMBERS—CREATED SONS OF GOD RULING UNDER HIM. GOD ALMIGHTY IS THE SOLE SOURCE OF CREATING POWER. THERE IS HOWEVER, ONE SON THROUGH WHOM ALL IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH WAS CREATED.**

“And so, the heavens will praise your wonderful deed, O Yahuah, even your faithfulness, in the **assembly of the holy ones**. For **who in the sky is equal to Yahuah? WHO IS LIKE YAHUAH AMONG THE SONS OF GOD**, a God **feared greatly in the council of the holy ones**, and awesome above all surrounding him?” (Psalm 89:5-7).

“But for us, there is **one God, the Father, BY** whom all things were created, and for whom we live. And there is **one Lord, Jesus Christ, THROUGH** whom all things were created, and through whom we live” (I Corinthians 8:6).

**BY THE POWER OF GOD, THE FATHER AND THROUGH HIS SON, THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH WAS CREATED. WHEN THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE EARTH WERE LAID GOD’S SONS FROM THE HEAVENLY CREATION REJOICED.**

“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundations? ...On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the **morning stars sang together** and **ALL THE SONS OF GOD SHOUTED FOR JOY?**” (Job 38:6-7)

**GOD GAVE HIS SONS AUTHORITY TO RULE.**

“God presides in the great assembly; **HE GIVES JUDGMENT AMONG THE ‘GODS’**” (Psalm 82:1).

**WHEN MAN BEGAN TO REBEL AT THE TIME OF BABEL, GOD GAVE HIS SONS AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS TO TEACH THEM THE WAY OF GOD.**

“When the Most High assigned lands to the nations, when he divided up the human race, he established the boundaries of the peoples **according to the number in his heavenly court**” (New Living Translation Deuteronomy 32:8).

**GOD AND CHRIST, TOGETHER, PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROJECT AND GOD’S PORTION IS AND REMAINS, THE DESCENDANTS OF JACOB.**

“For the LORD’s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance” (Deuteronomy 32:9).

**BUT, THESE GODS REBELLED AND TURNED THE NATIONS AGAINST THE ALMIGHTY GOD. SOON, THEY WILL BE PUNISHED—MADE MORTAL AND DIE.**

“I said, ‘You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High. But **YOU WILL DIE LIKE MERE MEN; YOU WILL FALL LIKE EVERY OTHER RULER**” (Psalm 82:6).

**KING DAVID URGED THESE GODS TO REPENT.**

“**Let all those be ashamed** who serve graven images, who boast themselves of idols; **worship Him, all you gods.**” (Psalm 97:7).

**THE SONS OF GOD WOULD NOT REPENT.**

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against **the RULERS**, against **the AUTHORITIES**, against **the POWERS** of this dark world and against **the SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL** in the **heavenly realms**” (Ephesians 6:12).

**DURING PAUL’S TIME, THE PRESENCE OF THESE GODS WAS A REALITY.**

Paul writes, “When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, ‘**THE GODS HAVE COME DOWN TO US IN HUMAN FORM!**’ Barnabas they called **Zeus**, and Paul they called **Hermes** because he was the chief speaker” (Acts 14:11-12).

**CHRIST’S DEATH ON THE CROSS DISARMED THE ROGUE SONS OF GOD AND CHRIST WON THEIR POWER AND AUTHORITY, WHICH HE IN TURN GAVE TO A CONVERTED GROUP OF PEOPLE—THE CHURCH.**

The rogue rulers and authorities in the heavenly realm were kept in the dark. “**None of the rulers of this age understood it**, for if they had, **THEY WOULD NOT HAVE CRUCIFIED THE LORD OF GLORY**” (I Corinthians 2:8).

Christ disarmed them, made a public spectacle of them by parading them before others who are imprisoned to the lower parts of the earth.

“He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the **written code**, with **its regulations, that war against us** and that **stood opposed to us**; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having **DISARMED THE POWERS AND AUTHORITIES**, he made a **PUBLIC SPECTACLE OF THEM, TRIUMPHING OVER THEM BY THE CROSS**” (Colossians 2:13-15).

“This is why it says: ‘When He ascended on high, **He led captives away**, and **gave gifts to men.**’ What does ‘**He ascended**’ mean, except that **He also descended to the lower parts of the**

earth? He who descended is the very one who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things" (Ephesians 4:8-9).

Christ, now ruler of heaven and earth, gave his church the authority that was originally given to the sons of God who were members of God's holy council to teach the nations the way of God until ALL reach unity in the father.

"For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Christ], and **through him [Christ] to reconcile to himself ALL things, whether things on earth or things in heaven**, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross" (Colossians 1:19-20).

"Then Jesus came to them and said, '**ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME**'" (Mathew 28:18).

"But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: 'When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men'... **some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of services, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we ALL reach unity in the father** and in the knowledge of the Son of God and **become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ**" (Ephesians 4:11-13).

**THE CHURCH HAS BEEN AWARDED A MOST HONORABLE ROLE AND GLORIOUS POSITION IN GOD'S KINGDOM. HER JOB IS TO TAKE THE GOSPEL TO ALL NATIONS. HER POSITION AT CHRIST'S RETURN AND UPON HER RESURRECTION INTO GLORY, IS TO CO-RULE WITH HIM. THEIR RELATIONSHIP WILL BE AN INTIMATE ROYAL BODY, WITH CHRIST AS THE HEAD AND THE CHURCH AS THE BODY, TOGETHER RULING AS ONE.**

"For we are members of His body. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the **two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church**" (Ephesians 5:30-32).

**TODAY, CHRIST'S CHURCH HAS TAKEN ON SEVEN DIFFERENT FACES. TO ALL SEVEN, CHRIST URGES IN REVELATION TO OVERCOME AND PURIFY THEMSELVES.**

Those who overcome will be in the first resurrection. They will rule with Christ.

"Blessed and holy are those who share in the **first resurrection**. The second death has no power over them, but **they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years**" (Revelation 20:6).



**FROM THE BEGINNING, GOD PLANNED THIS INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH. GOD MADE MAN AND WOMAN TO REFLECT THIS UNIQUE, HEAVENLY RELATIONSHIP.**

“For we are members of His body. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the **two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church**” (Ephesians 5:30-32).

“For by **one Spirit** are **we all baptized into one body**, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into **one Spirit**” (I Corinthians 12:13).

“But ye are not in the flesh, **but in the Spirit**, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the **Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his” (Romans 8:9).

“Now **you are the body of Christ**, and **each one of you is a part of it**” (I Corinthians 12:27).

**MAN WAS CREATED BEFORE WOMAN BECAUSE CHRIST EXISTED AND RULED BEFORE THE CHURCH. THE WOMAN WAS CREATED TO BE A HELP-MEET, A PRECISELY FITTED COMPANION WITHIN THE MARRIAGE UNION. SO, THE CHURCH WILL BE THE PARTNER FOR AND CO-RULER WITH CHRIST. UPON HER RESURRECTION, SHE WILL BRING THIS UNIQUE HEAVENLY UNION INTO COMPLETION AND SHE WILL BE RADIANT!**

“He did this to present her to himself as a **RADIANT CHURCH without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish**. Instead, she will **be holy and without fault**” (Ephesians 5:27).

“Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for **THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB** has come, and **HIS BRIDE HAS MADE HERSELF READY**; it was granted her to **clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure—for THE FINE LINEN IS THE RIGHTEOUS DEEDS OF THE SAINTS**. And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are the true words of God’” (Revelation 19:7-9).

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, **NEW JERUSALEM**, coming down out of heaven from God, **PREPARED AS A BRIDE ADORNED FOR HER HUSBAND**” (Revelation 21:1-2).

**SHE IS THE NEW JERUSALEM!**

*Compiled by Janette Andrejowich*