GOD'S MYSTERIES

"So, let a man regard us as servants of Christ and stewards of **God's mysteries**" (1 Corinthians 4:1).

MYSTERY #1: THE MYSTERY OF THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST

The rogue heavenly rulers over of the nations did NOT see it coming, because it was kept a secret and remained hidden, until the conquest was won. Christ's perfect sacrifice paid the penalty of our sins and He won power and authority over the nations on earth from the rogue heavenly rulers, over two thousand years ago. In addition, our Father in heaven has awarded Christ all power and authority in heaven and on earth. After Christ rose from the dead, he took those rogue heavenly rulers as captives and descended to inner earth, imprisoning them until judgment. Their authority became His booty and He gifted it to His servants: some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and some teachers so that ALL the world will learn the Way of God and come to know our Father in heaven. It was God's plan, at the time of Babel, when God divided the nations among the members of His heavenly court that the nations would be taught the Way of God by these highly trained, knowledge filled heavenly gods. But those heavenly rulers turned against their Creator and caused the nations to worship them and stray from the laws of God.

- Rogue heavenly rulers were not aware: "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).
- God divided the nations among the members of His heavenly court: "When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God" (Deuteronomy 32:8).
- Gods, who recently appeared: "They [the Israelites] sacrificed to false gods, which are not God—gods they had not known [they only knew the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob], gods that recently appeared [the gods assigned to the nations who recently rebelled against the Creator, ruling to give glory to themselves], gods your ancestors did not fear" (Deuteronomy 32:17).
- Christ's sacrifice paid the penalty of sin: "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).
- Christ won, through conquest, the authority over the nations: "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 has reconciled ALL things on earth and in heaven through His shed blood: "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).
- Christ gave the authority, which he took as booty from his conquest over the rogue heavenly rulers and gifted it to his church: "...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).
- Christ was given all power and authority on earth and in heaven: "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me'" (Mathew 28:18).

MYSTERY #2: THE MYSTERY OF THE RESURRECTION

Christ was resurrected from the dead **by our Father in heaven**. This resurrection is the affirmation that the **righteous will also be resurrected**, yet in the future. The resurrection is the mystery that death will be conquered and life will reign forever.

- "Behold, I show you a 'Mystery'; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump" (I Corinthians 15:51-55).
 - "And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the **firstborn from the dead**, and the **ruler of the kings of the earth**. To Him who **loves us and has released us from our sins by His blood**" (Revelation 1:5).
- First Resurrection: "But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the
 first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back" (I
 Corinthians 15:23).
 - "This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:6).
- Second Resurrection: "The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended" (Revelation 20:5).

MYSTERY #3: THE MYSTERY OF THE REDEMPTION OF THE HOUSE OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL

The ancient house of Israel fractured into two houses over 3,700 years ago. While both houses sinned, only the house of Israel sinned relentlessly, exasperating God to the point of divorcing them. They became cut-off from the covenant people, no longer considered people of God. They became Gentiles without hope. The covenant made at Mt. Sinai remained in force. God's commandment forbids a woman from remarrying her ex-husband. On a spiritual level, God was like a husband to Israel. The divorced house of Israel cannot re-enter into an intimate relationship with God. The house of Israel was doomed. It was a mystery to the prophets who searched the scriptures to discover how God could fix this devastating dilemma. Over time, the house of Judah followed the ways of the house of Israel. In God's great mercy, a plan of redemption is active. Both houses will be redeemed: Israel will be saved and Judah will be strengthened. All of Israel will be saved.

• God married Israel: "They broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 31:32).

"Turn, **O backsliding children**, said the LORD; for **I am married unto you**: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion" (Jeremiah 3:14).

• House of Israel divorced: "I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet, I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery" (Jeremiah 3:8).

"This is what the LORD says: 'Where is your mother's certificate of divorce with which I sent her away? Or to which of my creditors did I sell you? Because of your sins you were sold; because of your transgressions your mother was sent away'" (Isaiah 50:1).

- The law that prevented remarriage to a divorced wife: "Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the Lord: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance" (Deuteronomy 24:4).
- House of Israel saved: "I became its servant by the commission God gave me to fully proclaim to you the word of God, the mystery that was hidden for ages and generations but is now revealed to His saints, to whom God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles [the divorced Gentiles/10 tribes of Israel] the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:26).

"Surely you have heard about the **administration of God's grace** that was given to me for you, that is, the **mystery made known to me by revelation**, as I have already written briefly... you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 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. **This mystery is that through the gospel the**

Gentiles [both divorced Gentiles and Gentiles by birth] are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus... to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!" (Ephesians 3:2-21).

- Christ sent to redeem the lost sheep of Israel: "He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel'" (Matthew 15:24).
- Christ sent his 12 disciples to the lost sheep of Israel: "These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Do not go onto the road of the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near'" (Matthew 10:6).
- Christ's death canceled the written code and its regulations: Believers are no longer under the Law of Sin and Death. Upon repentance and baptism, they are back under the Law of God. "My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, CHRIST, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge... continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and over flowing with thankfulness... God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross" (Colossians 2:2-15).

"Not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:33).

 House of Judah strengthened, house of Joseph SAVED: "I will strengthen Judah and SAVE THE TRIBES OF JOSEPH. I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them" (Zechariah 10:6).

"Don't be ignorant of this mystery... ALL of Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:25-26). "They were broken off because of their unbelief... but God is able to graft them in AGAIN" (Romans 11:20-23).

MYSTERY #4: THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL'S [HOUSE OF JUDAH] BLINDNESS

The house of Israel has been released from the marriage covenant, through Christ's death; she is now a virgin—free to remarry under the law. She welcomed God's grace and immediately accepted Christ as her Savior.

The house of Judah rejected the Saviour, so God blinded them because of their transgressions, but they will not remain blind forever. God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes so that they could not see until the number of their brothers [the once-divorced Gentiles of the 10 tribes of Israel] have come into the faith. Then, God will lift the veil and they will cry out for grace and weep bitterly, when they realize that they authorized Christ's death on the cross. God will give them mercy and grace. All people on earth will come to learn that there is NO ONE who can make this journey on earth without sinning. All of mankind need God's mercy and grace.

- The once-divorced Gentiles [lost 10 tribes] are no longer cast off: "Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy" (I Peter 2:10).
- Judah will not be able to identify their Savior, until all of their brothers from the 10 tribes have accepted Christ and repented.
 - "I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of **this mystery**, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that **blindness in part** is happened to Israel, until, the 'full number of the Gentiles' has come in" (Romans 11:25).
- The house of Judah like the house of Israel live in disobedience and need grace: "Just as you [10 tribes of Israel] who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they [the house of Judah] too have now become disobedient [rejected Christ as their savor for a time] in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you [the 10 tribes of Israel]. For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them ALL (Romans 11:30-32).
- House of Judah receives grace: "I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn. In that day there will be great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning of Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo (Zechariah 12:11).

MYSTERY #5: MYSTERY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

The house of Judah and the house of Israel split around 931 BCE and remain split today. Yet, despite the animosity and competition between them that persisted throughout the ages, a reunification into one kingdom is prophesied. It has begun already on a spiritual level through the

repentant people of Israel and Judah and the repentant people from all over the world. We are all heirs through Christ, entering into God's kingdom through the gates of Israel. Christ is building his church and an intimate relationship is forming. **The relationship that a husband and wife share, is a mystery** rarely understood.

- God created intentionally the intimate relationship between a husband and wife to
 reflect the spiritual equivalent, that is, the intimate relationship between Christ and
 his church: "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).
- One body with Christ as the head: "And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy" (Colossians 1:18).

"But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ" (I Corinthians 11:3).

"And **He put all things in subjection under His feet**, and gave **Him as head over all things to the church**" (Ephesians 1:22).

• The righteous will reign with Christ: "If we endure, we will also reign with him" (II Timothy 2:12).

"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).

God still loves Israel—Judah and Israel (10 tribes): "O Jacob, O Israel, Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine... you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you" (Isaiah 43:1).

"I will grant salvation to Zion, my splendor to Israel" (Isaiah 46:13).

"In that day, the remnant of Israel, the survivors of the house of Jacob, will no longer rely on him who struck them down but will truly rely on the Lord, the Holy One of Israel [Christ]. A remnant will return, a remnant of Jacob will return to the Mighty God. Though your people, O Israel, be like the sand by the sea, only a remnant will return" (Isaiah 10:20).

"Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads. And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed **from every tribe of the sons of Israel**:

12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,

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12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,
12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed" (Revelation 7:3-8).
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- A great multitude from ALL nations will repent: "After this I looked, and there before
 me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people
 and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing
 white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud
 voice: 'Salvation to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" (Revelation 7:9).
- The overcomers enter into a marriage with Christ: "For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ" (II Corinthians 11:2).

"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).

AUTHOR'S THOUGHTS SEARCHING DEEP INTO THE MYSTERIES OF GOD. A mirror image exists between Adam and Eve and Christ and the church.

- Adam was created before Eve. Christ existed before the church.
- Adam named the animals before Eve was created. Christ held a position of authority before the creation of Eve.
- Eve was made from Adam; the church's spiritual life comes through Christ. Christ, the final Adam and Eve mirror the relationship between Christ and the church.

- Eve was told by God that her "desire would be to her husband and he would rule over her' (Genesis 3:16). So, the church is told to lean on Christ for guidance, always. He is the head and she is the body. Christ has been tested and tried and He has never failed. "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone [Yashuah/Jesus], a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed" (Isaiah 28:16).
- Spiritual creations can fall, so live eternity trusting in Christ.
 "What is a human being, that he can be clean, or that one born of a woman can be righteous? Look, he does not trust his holy ones, and the heavens are not clean in his eyes" (Job 15:14-15).
- Like Eve, all of mankind is easily deceived.
 "And the great dragon was hurled down--the ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him" (Revelation 12:9). "But your magic spell all the nations were led astray" (Revelation 18:23).
- Eve's role of mother and wife equates to the same role of the church.

 Pregnant, "She... cried out in pain as she was about to give birth" (Revelation 12:2); she is Christ's wife "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head" (Revelation 12:1).

 She is faithful Israel full of glory, clothed with the sun and ruling with the moon under her feet, with her crown of twelve stars identifying her as the nation of Israel. Repentant people from all the nations are grafted into Israel. She is the gentler creation by comparison and she is radiant. The female gender pictures mankind. This imagery was designed from the beginning to be the reflection of the church, while the male gender was created to picture the heavenly creation. She is different to him, designed intentionally to complement him.

MYSTERY #6: THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL

The mystery of the gospel was the revelation that the divorced house of Israel has received forgiveness of sins and grace from God through Christ's sacrifice. Christ also paid the penalty of the sins of the whole world. This good news brought the lost 10 tribes (house of Israel) back into the family and now, the opportunity for the whole world to be grafted into the covenant family. The house of Israel returned to the covenant family, but the house of Judah rejected their Savior, so Christ gave the 10 tribes of Israel the task of taking the gospel to the world. While the two houses remain fractured today, a re-unification is prophesied. It will take place in the final days of this evil age, in time for the spiritual growth take will take place on earth during the millennial rule.

Paul was sent to the Gentiles (the once-divorced house of Israel—10 tribes): "The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your forefathers when he said through Isaiah the prophet: 'Go to this people and say, you will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.' For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see

with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn and I would heal them.' Therefore, I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to **the Gentiles**, and **they will listen!**" (Acts 28:25-28).

Salvation is available to the whole world: "Now to him who is able to establish you by
my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the
mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the
prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that ALL nations might
believe and obey him" (Romans 16:25-26).

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).

• In the last days, the two houses of Israel will return to God: "When ye be multiplied and increased in the land in those days...the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel and they shall come together out of the land of the north, to the land that I gave for an inheritance unto your Fathers" (Jeremiah 3:16-18).

"In those days, at that time, the people of Israel and the people of Judah together will go in tears to seek the Yahuah, their God. They will ask the way of Zion and turn their faces toward it. They will come and bind themselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten" (Jeremiah 50:4-5).

- The two houses will become ONE kingdom forever: "I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in the hand of Ephraim and the Israelite tribes associated with him and the stick of Judah and the Israelite tribes associated with him and joint them, making them a single stick of wood...I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them ONE nation in the land... there will be ONE king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms" (Ezekiel 37:18-22).
- Through the re-united house of Israel, the nations will come to know God: "When I brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations... I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel," declares Yahuah (Ezekiel 39:24-29).
- Through the 12 gates of Israel, ALL repentant people will enter into the New
 Jerusalem: "It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the
 gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel" (Revelation
 21:12).

• The world will listen and worship the Almighty God: "In that day there will be an altar to Yahuah in the heart of Egypt, and a monument to Yahuah at its border... the Lord will make himself known to the Egyptians, and in that day they will acknowledge Him... The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together. In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth. The Yahuah Almighty will bless them, saying 'Blessed by Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance'" (Isaiah 19:19-25).

MYSTERY #7: MYSTERY OF CHRIST IN YOU

The mystery of Christ in you began on the day of Pentecost, with the receiving of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brings them into the body of God through Christ. Repentance, baptism and the receiving of the Holy Spirit is the process that transforms Christians, while they are still mere mortals, so they can be joined as one with God through Christ.

Having Christ in you, is putting aside your own will and doing the will of God, our Father. The order of authority within this "oneness" establishes God, our Father as the head reigning supreme, Christ is second in-charge—God's body and head of the bride—his body. The bride will hold the third position in the order of authority. This formation is a single body comprised of multiple members who walk, think, and do as ONE. It is a unique oneness, where everything is shared and nothing is hidden. While we still live in the flesh, a mutual union of the Holy Spirit is brought together with the human spirit. Christ, who has been given all power in heaven and in earth, will share his glory and position with his bride. Christ existed with his Father prior to the creation of heaven and earth. He is king from the realm in heaven and the bride is queen from the realm on earth. Through a monarchy, they will bring the two realms together under one rulership. A wonder will be revealed when repentant mankind goes from dust and dirt to eternal life. This awesome calling remains a mystery for many Christians.

- "How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)" (Ephesians 3:3,4).
- "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles **the glorious riches** of **this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory**" (Colossians 1:27).
- One Spirit, one Body: "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).

- Mutual union: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:4-5).
- A new creation: "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Corinthians 5:17).

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision, **but a new creature**" (Galatians 6:15).

• The head and body—head and body; ALL THREE are ONE in complete unity: "My Father, who has given them [the saints] to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:29). "I and the FATHER ARE ONE" (John 10:30).

"But if I do his work, believe in the evidence of the miraculous works I have done, even if you don't believe me. Then you will know and understand that the **FATHER IS IN ME, AND I AM IN THE FATHER**" (John 10:38).

"Believe me when I say **THAT I AM IN THE FATHER AND THE FATHER IS IN ME**; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves" (John 14:11).

"I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be ONE AS WE ARE ONE" (John 17:11).

"The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I IN THEM AND YOU IN ME, that they may be PERFECTED IN UNITY, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them" (John 17:22-26).

AUTHOR'S THOUGHTS SEARCHING DEEP INTO THE MYSTERIES OF GOD, this fused unity—oneness where God, our heavenly Father is the HEAD, Christ is His BODY AND HEAD of the bride, and she is Christ's BODY is the upcoming RULING TRINITY. This royal body of three working as ONE will complete the holy, divine leadership. Nearly beyond comprehension is the realization that repentant mankind will be changed from dust and dirt [rags] to spiritual eternal life [riches] in a matter of a twinkling of an eye.

"THREE, symbolizes that which is solid, real, substantial, complete, and entire. All things that are divinely complete are stamped with this number three" (Bullinger, 'Number in Scriptures' p. 95).

- Christ given all power: "And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18).
- The righteous resurrected in glory: "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things, for you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory" (Colossians 3:2-4).

MYSTERY #8: THE MYSTERY OF OUR GODLINESS

The mystery of our godliness was **Christ in the flesh** fulfilling **the plan of redemption and becoming the ONLY Teacher of his church.** After his resurrection, he descended to inner earth, taking with him captives [rogue heavenly rulers] and from the booty of his conquest, **he gifted their authority as teachers to his church to preach the way of God to all nations.** The church teaches what Christ taught them. The church is not the author of theology, but teaches and lives the word of God given to them from Christ who set the perfect example.

- "Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory" (I Timothy 3:16).
- "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).
- "Don't let anyone call you 'Rabbi,' for you have only one teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters... Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one Teacher, the Christ" (Matthew 23:8, 10).

MYSTERY #9: THE MYSTERY OF "INIQUITY"

As the "Mystery of Godliness" is Christ manifest in the flesh, so the "Mystery of Iniquity" is a hybrid life form, an "son" of Satan—the Antichrist manifest in the flesh.

"For the **mystery of lawlessness** is already at work, but the one who now restrains it will continue until he is taken out of the way" (II Thessalonians 2:7).

Biblesearch.org state,

- The Antichrist:
 - "The king will do as he pleases.
 - He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods.

- He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.
- He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god,
- but will exalt himself above them all.
- o Instead of them, he will **honor a god of fortresses**; **a god unknown to his fathers** he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.
- o He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god
- o and will **greatly honor those who acknowledge him**. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price" (Daniel 11:36-39).
- "His [the Antichrist's] coming is according to the working of Satan with all power and miracles and lying wonders
- And every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing" (II Thessalonians 2:9-11).

"Who is the liar, but **he that denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son**. Every one that denies the Son does not have the Father. The one who confesses the Son, truly has the Father also" (1 John 2:22-23).

Biblesearch.org continues, "It is highly likely that the Antichrist will come as a savior of humanity and attempt to counterfeit some or all of the things that are prophesied about the coming of the true Messiah. Listed below are ten things he may do to attempt to deceive humanity:

- 1. Demonstrate that he is the prophetic descendant of King David who is supposed to come to rule the world as described in Psalm 2
- 2. Send a false Elijah to speak of his coming (Malachi 4:5, 6).
- 3. Appear to gloriously return in the flesh after being fatally wounded (Matthew 25:31, 32; Acts 1:11; Revelation 1:7).
- 4. Return in the clouds of heaven accompanied by other beings (1Thessalonians 3:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:7).
- 5. Attempt to make Jerusalem the capital of his world-ruling government (Isaiah 11 & 12).
- 6. Establish his rule with deceptive miracles and wonders (Psalm 69).
- 7. Attempt to make an alliance of nations out of the modern ten tribes of Israel and the Jewish nation of Israel (Ezekiel 37).
- 8. Institute his own interpretation of the Mosaic Law (Isaiah 66: 22,23).
- 9. Proclaim that he has come to bring world prosperity (Isaiah 11; 12).
- 10. Proclaim that he has come to bring world peace (Psalm 96; 98).

The Antichrist will stop the Jews from sacrificing at the temple in Jerusalem and will attempt to change and/or eliminate the commanded observance and holy convocations of God.

"And the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the freemen and the slaves, allow it [the Antichrist's state religion] to give them a mark on their right hand, or on their foreheads:

so that none can buy or sell, except they have the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of its name. Here is wisdom. Let him having reason count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and its number is six hundred and sixty-six" (Revelation 13:16-18).

In the study of the numerical symbolism of the Bible, the number 6 is clearly associated with humanity; therefore, the number 666 may be the number of humanity. Because God the Father allows an evil global system to exist before his Son's return, the number 666 could very well be viewed in the context of the entire religious, economic, and governmental system that is led by the Antichrist who is in the service of Satan (II Thessalonians 2:4).

http://www.bibleresearch.org/prophecybook2/b2w11.html

MYSTERY #10: THE MYSTERY OF THE "RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS' – THE MYSTERY OF HIS WILL

Mystery of His will reveals that at the end of the fullness of times, it is God's purpose to restore all things, as they were before the rebellion of Satan and the fall of man.

"And he made known to us the **mystery of his will** according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ" (Ephesians 1:9-10).

"Heaven must receive him until **the time comes for God to restore everything**, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets" (Acts 3:21).

Chris Moen from LifeHope&Truth.com states,

THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

- Christ's returns in all His glory and the whole world sees Him. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:29-30).
- The first resurrection of the righteous who rule with Christ for 1,000 years are the first to experience a fully restored relationship with God. "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming" (I Corinthians 15:22-23).

"For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God" (Romans 8:19).

Satan's kingdom will be banished. "Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the

prince of this world will be driven out" (John 12:31).

• A New Thing! Here God calls His restoration "a new thing" because it will be new for those experiencing it, and the relationship He will have with humanity will exceed the one He had with Adam and Eve. Though offered the opportunity to have the close relationship with God that their Creator desired, Adam and Eve foolishly decided to make their own decisions apart from God. They turned their backs on the relationship that would have provided them peace and eternal life. (Chris Moen)

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a **new thing** [restoring all things]! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland..." (Isaiah 43:18-19).

- Recovery from Sin. All who repent, all who call out on His name shall be saved. "And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved" (Joel 2:32).
- A new covenant with Israel and the whole world. This new covenant, which represents having a peaceful, reconciled relationship with God, is not limited to Israelites. Eventually, as Psalm 22:27 notes, "all the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all families of the nations shall worship before You." (Chris Moen)

The new covenant is simply repentant people willingly obeying all that has been already commanded. Instead of a stubborn hard heart, their heart will soften into a heart of flesh willing to obey God's laws. No longer insisting on their way, clearly they will see the peace and righteousness of God's Way. (The Author)

• Lands and cities restored – the Millennium will be a period of massive rehabilitation over the earth. "Once the sins of Israel are forgiven, God will cause this nation's land to be restored to beauty like the Garden of Eden." (Chris Moen)

"On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. ... So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited'" (Ezekiel 36:33, 35).

Israelites will marvel at the abundance and the beautification that God will bring to "the house of Judah and the house of Israel" (Zechariah 8:6, 11-13). This principle illustrates how God will work with and bless first the descendants of the ancient Israelites and then all mankind (Romans 1:16; 2:9-10). (Chris Moen)

• It will be a time of healing and long life. The Millennium will be a time of learning God's ways. God's government will be centered at Jerusalem and will gradually span across the globe as both spiritual and physical blindness are removed (Isaiah 11:9; 60:1-3; Micah 4:2-3; John 12:40).

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing" (Isaiah 35:5-6).

During this marvelous time God will bless people with long lives, affording them the opportunity to know their grandchildren and have sufficient time to learn and live God's way of life (Zechariah 8:4-5)." (Chris Moen)

God's Sabbaths will be restored. At the end of the creation week, God blessed, made
holy and rested on the seventh day of the week (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:11). The same
weekly Sabbath that was ordained at the beginning will be observed as a day of rest and
worship for all peoples.

God's annual Sabbaths will also be observed (Exodus 31:12-13; Zechariah 14:16-19). As God declares, "From one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me" (Isaiah 66:23). (Chris Moen)

Second resurrection When the thousand-year reign of Christ comes to an end, "the rest of the dead" (Revelation 20:5)—those who had previously lived and died not understanding God's way of life—will have an opportunity to be reconciled to God. These people will be given an opportunity to learn God's laws, repent of their sins, receive God's Holy Spirit and eventually be granted eternal life (Joel 2:28).

God's desire is for everyone to repent, to be reconciled to Him and to become part of His family forever. This period of time after the Millennium is often referred to as the second resurrection or the time of the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11). (Chris Moen)

New heavens and new earth God announced through the prophet Isaiah: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind" (Isaiah 65:17).

Hundreds of years later, Peter spoke of this coming event. After warning us to watch our personal conduct and to practice godliness in preparation for the return of Jesus Christ, Peter spoke of the coming "new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (II Peter 3:10-13). This is yet another time of restoration.

The Greek word Peter used for "new" in verse 13 is 'kainos,' which refers to a state of freshness, as in renewal. The earth will thus be made "new," or renewed or restored, by God. The heavens will likewise be made "new" by the same process. This future renewal of the current heaven and earth is described in Psalm 102:25-26 as if they were like an old garment being replaced with a new one. This will be the time when New Jerusalem comes down from heaven (Revelation 21:1-2). (Chris Moen)

• All curses will be removed. When Adam and Eve rejected God's instructions in the Garden of Eden, they lost access to the tree of life. They and all humanity, which followed their example of rejecting God, would temporarily be subjected to a curse on the earth, bringing a life of toil and the dying process. Because of Adam and Eve's disobedience, God said, "Cursed is the ground for your sake. ... Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you" (Genesis 3:17-18; also see Romans 5:12).

God will eventually remove every curse on man saying, "There shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him" (Revelation 22:3).

Finally, because there will be no more sin, "there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things [will] have passed away" (Revelation 21:4).

Paul explains that after the resurrection of all who have ever lived, the final curse and enemy of God's creation—death itself—will come to an end (Isaiah 25:8; 1 Corinthians 15:26, 54). God the Father will then make the earth His home as well. As a voice from heaven announces in conjunction with the arrival of the new heaven and new earth, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God" (Revelation 21:3). (Chris Moen)

 Tree of Life is offered again. When Adam and Eve were removed from the Garden of Eden because of disobedience, they lost access to the tree of life, which represented eternal life. Adam and Eve's descendants—all humanity—likewise lost access to this tree because of their sins.

Part of the restoration, as Jesus Christ explained, is that this same tree of life will be made available again: "To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7).

And speaking of those who would dwell in New Jerusalem, John wrote, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14).

• We have an awesome future. Christ's glorious and triumphant return begins the majestic story of restoring all things. In the first phase, those who overcome in this age will be the first to obtain eternal life.

Then, as Satan is banished for a thousand years, God will begin pouring out His Spirit in abundance to all who repent of their sins. All nations will be taught that God's way works. When God's laws are kept, peace, joy, prosperity and longevity will follow.

Then a great multitude of people will be raised from the dead and offered eternal life for the very first time.

After that, a new heaven and a new earth will come into being. Every curse will be forever removed, and evil will be eradicated from God's entire creation. God will make His home with mankind on the earth, and the tree of life will be made available again. Speaking of this time, the One sitting on the throne says, "Behold, I make all things new. ... It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End" (Revelation 21:5-6).

God has revealed His wonderful plan to those faithful believers who anticipate the coming "times of restoration of all things." You, too, can be a part of this awesome future if you repent of your sins and live a life of obedience to God. (Chris Moen) http://lifehopeandtruth.com/prophecy/end-times/restoration-of-all-things/



 $\underline{http://lifehopeandtruth.com/prophecy/end-times/restoration-of-all-things/}$

Paul's mysteries wrapped in a paragraph:

Christ's conquest over sin has set God's redemption plan for mankind in motion. The bride will marry Christ and they will rule together, as a monarchy over the two realms: heaven and earth, ruling as a royal leadership of three: God our Father in heaven as supreme head, Jesus Christ as the body of God and head of the bride.

The house of Israel presently fractured will be reunited and through her, all of the people from the nations will come to know God and be grafted into the covenant family, as God's kingdom grows to cover all the earth. The birth of this new beginning will not come without a fight. Satan, the Antichrist, the false prophet along with their nasty coalition will lead the great battle, but they will fail. When all things are restored, God will create a new heaven and earth and He will come down to live with mankind. He will wipe away all our tears and over time, all the pain and suffering caused by wickedness will be forgotten. Life will prevail, death will be conquered once and for all.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich