



DEFINITION

Something that was totally unrevealed in the Old Testament

Rom 16:25b-26a The revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past.

1 Cor 2:7 Hidden which God predestined before the ages

Eph 3: 4b-5 in other generations was not made known...as it has now been revealed

Eph 3:9 has been hidden in God

Col 1:26 hidden from the ages and generations; but has now been manifested

The secret thoughts, plans and times of God that are hidden from humanity and cannot be known before God reveals it.

These mysteries were revealed to the Apostles and New Testament Prophets who made them part of the believer's foundation. Eph 2:20

They and we understand these mysteries because the Holy Spirit has given us understanding.

1 Cor 2:12-16



CONTINUED....

The Apostle Paul felt a unique burden as a servant, who was entrusted with the mysteries, and with the proclaiming of them.

- 1 Cor 4:1 stewards of the mysteries of God
- Eph 3:3 by revelation there was made known to me
- Eph 3:4 understand my insight into the mystery
- Eph 3:8-9 to me...this was given...to bring to light
- Eph 6:19-20 pray...that utterance may be given to me...to make known...the mystery
- Col 4:3-4 praying...that God may open to us a door...that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ

The word "mystery" is found 28 times in the New Testament:

1. in each Gospel
2. Paul used it 21 times
3. 4 times in Revelation

The word is used to describe:

1. God's plan using the Messiah
2. secrets revealed to individuals 1Cor 13:2; 14:2
3. hidden meaning found in symbols and types
 - husband and wife Eph 5:31-32
 - seven stars Rev 1:20
 - seven lampstands Rev 1:20
 - Babylon Rev 17:5,7



CONTINUED...

THE MYSTERIES

1. The Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven Matt 13:11,34-35

GOD'S KINGDOM PROGRAM

1. the Eternal aspect - Heavenly rule
2. the Temporal aspect - the Earthly manifestation of the Universal Sovereignty of God

God rules in the affairs of men.

THERE ARE 5 FACETS OF GOD'S KINGDOM PROGRAM

Four were revealed in the Old Testament.

- The Universal
- The Spiritual
- The Theocratic
- The Messianic
- The Mystery

THE UNIVERSAL

God is in control and nothing can happen outside His will, including the angelic realm

- 1 Chron 29:11-12
- Ps 29:10
- Ps 103:19-22
- Ps 145:13
- Dan 4:17,25,32
- Dan 6:26

SPIRITUAL

- God's rule in the heart of the believer
- Entering this kingdom is by means of the Holy Spirit.
- Jn 3:3-5
- Col 1:13-14; 2:12



CONTINUED...

THEOCRATIC

God's rule over Israel - 2 Phases

Mediatorial Kingdom: God ruled through mediators - Moses to Samuel

Monarchial Kingdom - King Saul to Zedekiah

When the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem in 586BC this phase ended and the "Times of the Gentiles" began.

MESSIANIC or MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

A literal, earthly kingdom in which the Messiah will rule this world from Jerusalem

MYSTERY begins with the rejection of the Messiahship of Jesus by Israel, Mtt ch 12-13 and ends with the acceptance of His Messiahship by Israel at the end of the

Tribulation.

The "Parables of the Mystery Kingdom" are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| a. Sower | Matt 13:3-23 |
| b. Seed, growing of itself | Mk 4:26-29 |
| c. Tares | Matt 13:24-30 |
| d. Mustard Seed | Matt 13:31-32 |
| e. Leaven | Matt 13:33 |
| f. Hidden Treasure | Matt 13:44 |
| g. Pearl of Great Price | Matt 13:45-46 |
| h. Net | Matt 13:47-50 |
| i. Householder | Matt 13:51-52 |

NOTES: on the Mystery Kingdom

1. has a limited time duration
2. both believers and unbelievers are involved in it
3. includes both Jews and Gentiles
4. Jesus rules over it from Heaven



CONTINUED...

2. THE FIVE MYSTERIES OF THE CHURCH

a. THE RAPTURE 1Cor 15:51

A generation will not pass through physical death when entering the "other side"

b. GENTILES ARE FELLOW HEIRS

and Fellow Members of the Body and Fellow Partakers of the Promise in Christ Jesus through (by means of) the Gospel. Eph 3:1-12

c. THE RELATION THAT CHRIST MAINTAINS WITH HIS CHURCH

Eph 5:32

d. CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY Col 1:24-29

(see Rom 8:9-11)

e. THE SEVEN STARS - ANGELS Rev 1:20

3. MYSTERY INVOLVING ISRAEL

f. The Partial Hardening of Israel in this present age - that it is temporary

Rom 11:25-32



....CONTINUED

THE TWO SATANIC MYSTERIES

1. MYSTERY BABYLON Rev 17:5 a name...a mystery

OVERVIEW:

- a. Rev 6:1 - 16:21 the Tribulation Period ending with Armageddon.
Rev 16:16-21
- b. Collateral information on the first half of the Tribulation
chapter 17
- c. Collateral information on the 2nd half of the Tribulation including the
destruction of the city of fBabylon itself
- d. an angel - a further revelation Rev 17:1-2

THE GREAT HARLOT - one who takes a legitimate act (religion) and moves it to an illegitimate use (spiritual fornication).'

Religion riding upon the antichrist's government Rev 17:3
She is wealthy beyond belief - a real contrast to
the church of John's day. 17:4

BABYLON - where idolatry and spiritual fornication began. Gen 10:8-9

(Why Nimrod left Babylon - Gen 11:1-9)

This Babylon will persecute the believers in the Messiah
during the Tribulation. Rev 17:6

A DESCRIPTION OF THE MYSTERY (vs 7)

Babylon will develop into a one-world, unified, religious system and
will be involved in ruling the earth from the city of Babylon itself.

NOT REVEALED EVER BEFORE!

In verses 9-18: "Ten kings will rule coequally over ten kingdoms.
In the middle of the Tribulation they will turn their
power over to One king who will rule through the
2nd Half of the Tribulation or until Messiah comes.

Verse 15 - many waters - are the nations of the earth
Verse 16-17 - The judgment of the harlot
Verse 18 - The headquarters of this world order.



...CONTINUED

2. MYSTERY OF LAWLESSNESS AND THE LAWLESS ONE

2 Thess 2:1-12 In short, The revelation of the Mystery
"A lawless one will rise up and be revealed...by exalting himself,
taking his seat in the Temple of God." (Halfway through the Tribulation) vs 4

Satan's lawless plan is restrained for a yet future date, but when the
restraint is removed, the lawless one will establish himself by means of
lawlessness. vs 6-7

At this point in history, the worship of antichrist will replace the world
religious system. vs 4 and Rev 20:4

The Lord's Presence and Word will destroy antichrist.
Satan's power will be manifest in this person.
The work of deception - reject the Gospel preached the First Half of the
Tribulation. vs 8

NOTE: Those who reject the Gospel in the first half of the Tribulation will
be deceived and join the devil in the second half. vs 9-10

RECAP: Lawlessness is being restrained until the restraint itself is removed;
then lawlessness will take over and bring in the lawless one.

THE FINAL MYSTERY OF GOD Rev 10:7

This present creation will be finalized by God by means of
SEVEN CLIMACTIC JUDGMENTS. See Rev 10"1-6 and 11"15-19

The Seventh Trumpet of Rev 11:15 is the Seven Bowl Judgments. Rev 15:1,5-8; 16:1,17
With the Seventh "IT IS DONE".

THE MYSTERY - HOW GOD WILL END IT!