

Refreshed

Rediscovering Life In Christ

Mystery Revealed

Ephesians 3:1-13

Sermon Notes | Jeff Randleman | April 26, 2026



To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things.

– Ephesians 3:8-9 (ESV)

Revealing the Mystery:

Understand The Mystery of God's Plan.

- The Mystery Was Once Hidden.
- The Mystery Is the Inclusion of the Gentiles.
- The Mystery Reveals God's Global Plan.

Understand Our Place in God's Plan.

- God Uses Ordinary People for Extraordinary Purposes.
- Our Lives Are Connected to Something Bigger.
- We Participate in Revealing God's Plan.

Understand the Church's Role in God's Plan.

- The Church Displays God's Wisdom.
- The Church Reveals God's Plan to the World
- This Has Always Been God's Eternal Purpose.

So... We Can Live with Confidence in God's Plan.

- That means... We Have Bold Access to God.
- That means... We Can Endure Hardship with Perspective.
- And that means... God Is Working Even When We Don't See It.

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Matters for Reflection and Discussion:

1. When Paul talks about “the mystery” being revealed, what stands out most to you about what was once hidden and is now made known?
2. Why do you think the inclusion of the Gentiles was such a significant and even shocking part of God’s plan in Paul’s time?
3. How does understanding God’s plan as global (not limited to one group) shape the way we view people who are different from us?
4. Paul saw himself as a servant of this mystery by God’s grace. In what ways do you see God using your life – ordinary as it may feel – for his purposes?
5. What does it look like practically to live as someone who is participating in God’s bigger plan rather than just observing it?
6. According to this passage, the church displays God’s wisdom. What are some ways our church does this well? Where do we struggle?
7. How does knowing that the church reveals God’s plan not just to the world, but even to spiritual realms, elevate your view of its importance?
8. Paul endured hardship because of his calling. How does seeing your life as part of God’s plan help you endure difficulties differently?
9. What does it mean to you personally that you have “bold access” to God through Christ? How should that shape your prayer life?
10. Where in your life do you need to trust that God is working – even when you can’t see it – and how can this passage encourage you in that area?