

## Unveiling God's Eternal Plan

### Ephesians 3:1-13

**Ephesians 3:1–6 (ESV)** — For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

**Ephesians 2:6 (NLT)** — For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

**Ephesians 4:1 (ESV)** — I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

**Ephesians 6:13 (ESV)** — Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

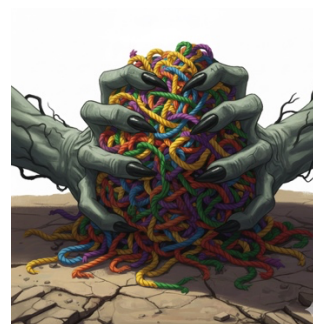
### Our Rescue is the Focus of God's Plan

**Ephesians 3:4–5 (ESV)** — When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

**Ephesians 1:4 (NLT)** — Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

**Ephesians 1:9–10 (ESV)** — Making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

**Every story worth remembering becomes a kind of signpost pointing us to the greater Story God is telling, the story of redemption in Christ.**





**Genesis 12:1–3 (ESV)** — Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him

who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**Galatians 4:4–5 (NLT)** — But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.

## Our Restoration is the Surprise of God’s Plan

### **Ephesians 3:6 (ESV)**

This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

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### **Galatians 4:7 (ESV)**

So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

### **John 1:12–13 (ESV)**

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

### **Galatians 3:29 (ESV)**

And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs

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according to promise.

Crossgates

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### **Colossians 1:27 (ESV)**

To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.



## **Our Visible Unity is the Victory of God's Plan**

### **Ephesians 3:8–10 (ESV)**

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, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.



**Ephesians 3:8–9 (ESV)** — 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,

### **Romans 10:14 (ESV)**

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

**John 17:20–21 (ESV)** — “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.



### **Ephesians 3:10 (ESV)**

So that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

## **We, as the Church, are making known the mystery to two groups of ANGELS**

### **1. To the Angels of God**

#### **1 Peter 1:10–12 (ESV)**

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

### **2. To the Fallen Angels or demons**

#### **Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)**

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.