

II. The Desirous Will of God - *Continued*
a. *Thele and Thelema*

9. Experientially know the riches of the glory of the indwelling Christ – “*Christ in You*” – Colossians 1:25-27
 - a. V. 25
 - i. God made Paul a minister of, or one who dispenses, the truth according to the dispensation of the Grace of God
 - ii. “*to fulfill the word of God*”
 1. fulfill – *pleroo* – to make full, to fill up; to fill to the top: so that nothing shall be wanting to full measure”
 2. There was more revelation that needed to be provided for God’s Word to be made complete
 - b. V. 26
 - i. Paul was dispensing truth about a mystery that had been hid from the spirit realm and mankind
 1. Mystery – *mustarion* – “hidden thing, secret; hidden purpose or counsel; secret will”
 - a. Spirit realm – 1 Cor. 2:7-8
 - b. Mankind – John 16:12-13; Ro. 16:25-26
 2. Hath Been Hid (Perf. Pass. Ind.) – *apokrypto* – “to conceal away, to keep secret”
 - ii. But Now! – “At this very moment”
 1. Made manifest to the saints (Aor. Pass. Ind.)
 - a. Manifest – *phaneroo* – “to make manifest or visible or know what has been hidden or unknown”
 - b. God made known this previously hidden truth at this very time in human history
 - c. This was truth for believers not the world
 2. God had kept this truth, that Paul was now granted to dispense, a secret from the foundation of the world
 - c. V. 27
 - i. “*To whom God would make known...*”
 1. God’s desirous will

2. Make known (Aor. Act.) – *gnorizo* – “to make known; to gain or have a thorough knowledge of”
3. God desires to cause all believers to have a thorough working knowledge of the true inestimable worth of “*Christ in You*”
- ii. “*Hope of glory*” – the believer’s confidence that we can be what God intends for us to be
- d. “*Christ in You*”
 - i. John 14:20 – Christ introduces truth that He will indwell believers
 - ii. 1 John 5:11-12, 20 – Eternal life is in the Son, and the Son is in the believer
 1. John 17:3 – Eternal life = experiential knowledge of the Father and Son
 - iii. 1 Cor. 2:16 – the believer possesses the mind of Christ
 1. The believer can both understand the significance of and have a full appreciation for the Word of God
 - iv. Ro. 12:2 – Transformation occurs in the life of the believer when they make use of the mind of Christ
 1. Increasingly able to understand God’s desirous will for their lives
 2. Phil. 2:5 – believer called on to make use of the mind of Christ
 - v. Believer is indwelt by God the Father
 1. Eph. 4:6; 1 John 4:12
 2. 1 John 3:9 – The believer possesses God’s seed
 - vi. Believer is indwelt by the Spirit of God
 1. Gal. 5:22-23 – Fruit of the Spirit
 2. Eph. 5:18 – Filled by the Spirit
 3. Eph. 3:16-19 – Enabled for service
 4. 2 Cor. 3:17-18 – Potential to reflect the glory of God
 - vii. “*Christ in You*” was not something Old Testament believers experienced
 1. OT – the Holy Spirit came upon (and departed from) select individuals to perform a function for the nation of Israel
 2. John 14:16-17, 26 – the sending of the Spirit was a future event at the Upper Room

3. John 10:38 – the idea that a man could be indwelt by God was blasphemous to OT Jews
 - a. “Christ in You” was not a different spin on OT reality
 - b. Brand new truth only recently revealed by God to the Church
- e. Why is this so significant?
 - i. Heb. 10:5-8 – God did not desire the sacrifices and offerings prescribed by the Mosaic Law
 - ii. Heb. 7:19 – The Law made nothing perfect (*teleioo*)
 1. *Teleioo* – “mature, complete, what something ought to be”
 2. But a better hope provided to believers in Christ has made it possible to mature
- f. What is the better hope?
 - i. V. 28 – Paul preached, taught, and warned every believer about “*Christ in You*”, our hope of glory
 - ii. Paul states that the purpose behind teaching believers about “*Christ in You*” was so that they could be presented perfect (*teleioo*)
- g. Conclusion: Our becoming what God intends us to be in Christ is not tied to the Law, or outward religious observance (the checklist), but rather to a working knowledge of the inestimable riches and power of “Christ in Us”