Hidden Mysteries of Heaven's Kingdom Realm Part-1

Two weeks ago in **"Hidden Mysteries of Heaven's Kingdom Realm – Pt. 3**," we studied Christ's exaltation & our co-heirship with Him, closing the session with His obedience to the will of His Father in **Phil. 2:5-8**. In Christ's life from beginning to end, we observe a hidden mystery of Heaven's Kingdom realm found in the second half of **Prov. 18:12 NKJV**,*"Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, and before* ***honor***(Heb. *chabod* = "*glory*)" *is humility."* Humility always comes before exaltation & glorification. Conversely, though he wasn't a man, Lucifer took the path of the first half of this verse: "*Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty"* or "*proud*". This noun is related to the verb that means "**to boil up**." **SFLB WW**: "Pride (or exaggerated self-esteem) incites **insolence** (rudeness, being impolite, boldly disrespectful to those in authority, or of higher rank or status) and rebellion toward God, and it brings shame (Prov. 11:2) and destruction (Ezek. 7:10-12)."

Lucifer's Five "I Will's"

In **Isa. 14:12-15 NKJV** titled "The Fall of Lucifer," notice the self-exaltation that comes before his destruction: **12.** "*How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!* How *you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations* (**Luke 10:18; Rev. 12:7-10**, where the power of the blood speaks of our Lord Who humbled Himself & overcame for us). **13.** *For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;* **14.** *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'* **15.** *Yet you shall be brought down to* ***Sheol*** [NT *"Hades"*], *to the lowest depths of the Pit."*

Matt. 11:20 NKJV, which says, "*Then He* (Jesus) *began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent."* **SFLB note:** "The woes pronounced upon the cities serve as warning to the unresponsive generation. Not only does Jesus condemn the wicked, but also the indifferent, insisting that greater opportunity for unbelief calls for greater condemnation for rejecting Him." **Matt. 11:23** reads, "*And you, Capernaum* [Jesus' HQ], *who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades* [OT "*Sheol*"]*; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day."* **SFLB note***: "*Hades is the temporary place for deceased unbelievers, until the final judgment, after which Hades (death) itself will join its occupants in hell (Rev. 20:14-15)." **Pride, arrogance, defiance!**

Christ's Absolute Exaltation & Universal Lordship

Phil. 2:9 *Therefore God also has **highly exalted**** *Him and given Him the name which is above every name,* **10.** *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and those on earth, and of those under the earth,* **11.** *and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* ***"**Highly exalted*'**SFLB WW** *"Huper,* "over," & *upsoo,* "to lift up." Thus, the word suggests an exaltation to the highest position, an elevation above all others. The context contrasts humiliation [the Cross] **and** resulting honors. Jesus' obedience to death is followed by a super-exalted position of honor & glory." **Jesus' humility & courage were off the charts!**

Called to Participate in Kingdom Blessings

1 John 3:1 TPT *"Look with wonder at the depth of the Father's marvelous love that He has lavished on us! He has **called*** *us and made us His very own beloved children. The reason the world doesn't recognize who we are is that they didn't*

recognize Him (**TPT note**: "Jesus, God incarnated in human form")*."*

***SFLB WW: Gal. 1:6 Called,** *kaleo "*The word is used to invite or to summon, and is especially used of **God's call to participate in the blessings of the kingdom**."

Matt. 22:14 "*Many are called but few are chosen*." Universal invitation to salvation is given, but few choose to participate.

Gal. 3:26-27 TPT *"You have all become true children of God **by faith** in Jesus Christ!* **27.** ***Faith*** *immersed you into Christ, & now you are covered and clothed with His life."* **Faith**, **not ancestry!**

Gal. 4:6-7 TPT *"And so that we would know that we are His true children* (**TPT note**: "or, "*Because you are sons"*), *God released the Spirit of Sonship into our hearts – moving us to cry out intimately, "My Father! My true Father!"* **7.** *Now we're no longer living like slaves* under the law, *but we **enjoy** being God's very own sons and daughters! And because we're His,* we can access everything our Father has – *for we are heirs because of what God has done!*"

SFLB note on **4:4-7**, "In contrast to bondage to the Law, life in Christ is the freedom of sons & daughters." **A mystery of the Heaven's Kingdom Realm –** we have the freedom of being God's legitimate children **(John 8:31-32).**

So, let's keep our focus on the King of Glory, until one day we stand in His exalted presence for all eternity!

"What a Tranquilizer!" Selwyn Hughes, Oct. 27

"I have loved you with an everlasting love." **Jer. 31:3**

"How little real love there is for God," says theologian Arthur W. Pink. He suggests that the low level of spirituality in today's

church is caused by our hearts being so little occupied with thoughts of the divine love. “The better we are acquainted with His love – it’s character, it’s fullness, it’s blessedness,” he says, “the more will our hearts be drawn out in love to Him.”

“We focus now on the fact that God’s love is eternal.

“God being eternal, it follows that His love also is eternal. This means that God loved us before earth and heaven were called into existence, that He has set His heart upon us from all eternity. This is the truth set forth in Ephesians 1:4-5, where we are told that we were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world. What a tranquilizer this is for our hearts! If God’s love for us had no beginning, then it has no ending either. It is from “everlasting to everlasting.”

“Another thing we need to know about the love of God is that it is a holy love. This means that His love is not regulated by whim or caprice or sentiment, but by principle. Just as His grace reigns not at the expense of righteousness but “through” it (Rom. 5:21), so His love never conflicts with His holiness. This is why John says that God is “light” before he says God is “love.” And this is why, too, the Almighty never lets us get away with anything. He loves us too much for that. His love is pure, holy, and unmixed with [mushy] sentimentality. God will not wink at sin, not even in His own people.”

The Mystery of the Cascading Riches of God’s Grace

Eph. 1:4 TPT *“And in love He chose us before He laid the foundation of the universe! Because of His great love,* ***He ordained us****, so that we would be seen as holy in His eyes with an unstained innocence.”* ***TPT note:** “There is an alternate Greek translation of the unique wording of this verse that could be translated “*He chose us to be a ‘word’ before the fall of the world.”* The Greek word for “*chose”* is *eklegomai,* which is a form of *lego* (*speak*).”

5-6 TPT *For it was always in His perfect plan to adopt us as His delightful children, through our union with Jesus, the Anointed One, so that His tremendous love that cascades over us would glorify His grace – for the same love He has for the Beloved, Jesus, He has for us* (John 17:23)*. And this unfolding plan brings Him great pleasure!"*

V. 6 NKJV *"to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us* ***accepted*** *in the Beloved."* **SFLB note:** "**Accepted** is literally "*graced with grace." "In Christ"* is a recurring term designating the sphere in which all salvation is realized and the realm in which God's kingdom purposes are fulfilled – in the circle of the King's (Christ's) reign."

Eph. 1:7 TPT *"Since we are now joined to Christ, we have been given the treasures of redemption by His blood – the total cancellation* (or "*forgiveness"*) *of our sins – all because of the cascading riches of His grace."* **SFLB note**: "This letter repeatedly insists that the ground of all grace is the reconciling death of Jesus Christ on the cross (2:16), at the expense of **His** redeeming blood (2:13). Through this alone God offers forgiveness (4:32). Forgiveness is possible because Christ loved the church and gave Himself to provide it (5:25-27)."

Eph. 1:8 TPT *"This* superabundant *grace is already powerfully working in us* (or "[*is*] *lavished on us"*), *releasing all forms of wisdom and practical understanding.* **9.** *And through the revelation of the Anointed One, He unveiled His secret desires to us – the hidden mystery of His long-range plan, which He was delighted to implement from the very beginning of time*." In the NT God's former divine secret is now a truth fully disclosed so that we can understand it & apply it to our lives by faith in God's grace!

V. 10 TPT *"And because of God's unfailing purpose, this detailed plan will reign supreme through every period of time until the fulfillment of all the ages finally reaches its climax – when God makes all things new in all of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ."* **NKJV** *"That in the* ***dispensation**** *of the fullness of the times He* (God) *might gather together in one all things in Christ..."* **SFLB note:** "**Dispensation**" is not a restricted period of time. It references that fact God has a plan to **gather together** the fragmented & alienated universe, so that human history ultimately culminates in achieving His purposes."

V. 11 TPT *"Through our union with Christ we too have been claimed by God as His own inheritance**. Before we were even born, He gave us our destiny* (or "*estate"*)*; that we would fulfill the plan of God who always accomplishes every purpose and plan in His heart."* ***TPT note:** "The Greek construction of this phrase can mean either that God appointed us (Gr. *kleroo, "chosen by casting lots"*) to be His inheritance [v. 18], or that we have been appointed [to receive] an inheritance."

God chose Jews to be the first to believe in the Christ

V. 12 TPT *"God's purpose was that we* Jews, *who were the first to long for the messianic hope, would be the first to believe in the Anointed One and bring great praise and glory to God!"*

Let's Focus on God's Love & be Filled with Joy

Joy springs from love (Gal. 5:22 '*fruit of the Spirit*'), which is followed by ***peace***, then ***longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,* 23. *gentleness, & self-control.*** *Against such there is no law.* **24.** *And those* who are *Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.* **25.** *If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.* **26.** *Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another."*