

## Mystery: All Things in Him

(Ep 1:9-10) <sup>9</sup>having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, <sup>10</sup>that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth - in Him.

He is the Place of Unity (Jn 17:21) - One New Man only exists in Him (Eph 2:15)

End Purpose from Beginning... all Created by Him, for Him, Consist in Him (Col 1:16-17)

Why all the drama with Israel? God desires **Voluntary Love** (Choice - tree of knowledge)

Adam chosen (fall), problem: wickedness (Gen 6:5), solution: Noah chosen - righteous

note: sons of God introduced (Gen 6)

Tower of Babel: confuse (Hebrew), Gate of God (Babylonian) - sons of God worship

danger of One Language (free speech), Scattered (globalism) - Control (fallen angels/satan)

problem: idolatry (Tower of Babel Gen 11), solution: Abraham (Gen 12) - faith

70 nations (tradition) vs Holy Nation (Ex 19:5-6) - His witness among nations

(Jer 3:19 **nasb**) Then I said, 'How I would set you among My sons And give you a pleasant land, The most beautiful inheritance of the nations!'

Slavery, Signs during Exodus = God's Glory

(Dt 32:8-12 **Septuagint**) When the Most High divided the nations, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the nations according to the number of the angels (sons) of God. And his people Jacob became the portion of the Lord, Israel was the line of his inheritance. He maintained him in the wilderness, in burning thirst and a dry land: he led him about and instructed him, and kept him as the apple of an eye. As an eagle would watch over his brood, and yearns over his young, receives them having spread his wings, and takes them up on his back: the Lord alone led them, there was no strange (foreign) god with them. \*

why Israel (church) persecuted (**Ps 2:1-3**) - Silence His Witness, Choose own gods

Law of Righteousness (Moses), continued Sin & Idolatry (why Babylonian captivity, Scattered)

problem: weak flesh (**Rom 8:3-4**), solution: Jesus - giver of Spirit (Pentecost - tongues)

Promised Restoration of Israel - about the Nations

(Eze 36:18-36) <sup>18</sup>“Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it. <sup>19</sup>“So I scattered them among the nations, ... <sup>22</sup>“Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went... <sup>24</sup>“For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup>“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup>“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you... <sup>35</sup>“So they will say, ‘This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.’ <sup>36</sup>“Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate.”

into Ezekiel 37: dry bones (Israel) - resurrection life (Rom 11:15 Israel's Salvation)

Abraham's Covenant - everlasting (Gen 17:7)

(Ge 12:2-3) <sup>2</sup>I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

wall of separation (Eph 2:14), defiled court of Gentiles (Jesus turning over tables)

Parable of Vinedressers (Mt 21:43) - Great Commission (nations)

Promised Restoration of Israel - Lead Nation (Isa 60)

(Ac 3:20-21, 25) <sup>20</sup>"and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, <sup>21</sup>"whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. <sup>25</sup>"You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

note Peter only quotes the remaining unfulfilled part of the covenant

**Voluntary Love:** always been about Witness of Him to Nations in midst of all other Choices

One New Man is also a witness to the sons of God (Dt 32:43 Septuagint)

(Ep 3:10) <sup>10</sup>to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,

7 Thunders (Rev 10:3-4) hidden until just before 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet - Christ's Coming

(Rev 10:6-7) <sup>6</sup>and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, <sup>7</sup>but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

What is the delay? Mystery: Lawlessness (2 Thes 2:7)

\* older Septuagint (Dead Sea Scrolls) - Masoretic (Rabbi Akiva ~ 100 AD) changed Septuagint where deemed theologically offensive, in this case by referencing foreign gods