

GOD NEVER SAID THAT

WEEK 3 | THE MYSTERY OF GOD | EPHESIANS 1:3-14

INSPECTION: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Why is God's will called a mystery?

What three things happen for those who are "In Christ" as seen in verses 4, 5, and 6?

According to verse 7, how is God's mystery connected to the blood of Jesus?

Read verse 13. What happens when we hear, believe, and trust in Christ?

What is the purpose of this mystery revealed to us in verse 14?

OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

What are some of the spiritual blessings we have in Christ?

Have all the mysteries of God's will been revealed?

How has the revelation of God's purpose in your life changed you?

Where do those outside of Christ find identity? What is the root of all identity crises?

How does the word "predestination" impact your view of evangelism?

LIFE APPLICATION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Make a list of benefits from the text that are available to you in Christ.

Pray that God will reveal His mystery of love through your life.

Make a comparison from before and after your adoption in Christ.

Consider how you fulfill verse 10 in your daily life and ministry.

Pray for Christian parents who would like to adopt.

MEDITATION: WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

Job 11:7

Daniel 2:28

Amos 3:7

Matthew 13:11

Luke 8:10

Romans 16:25

Colossians 2:2

1 Timothy 3:16

SUPPLICATION: WHAT CAN WE MEDITATE?

God's Unspeakable Gift

O LORD, many of us feel like the lame man at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. Come by this way and make the lame ones perfectly sound. O Lord, Thou canst do by Thy servants today what Thou didst by them in the olden time. Work miracles of mercy even upon outer court worshippers who are too lame to get into the holy place.

But there are many who feel like that man when he was restored. We would follow our Restorer, the Prince of Life, into the temple, leaping and walking and praising God. He has gone into the temple in the highest sense, up to the throne of God. He climbs and we would follow, up the steps of the temple one by one. We would come nearer and nearer to the throne of God.

O Lord, Thou hast done such great things for us that we feel the drawings of Thy love. The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

Draw us nearer, Lord, draw us into the inner Sanctuary. Draw us within the place which once was hidden by the veil which Christ has rent. Bring us right up to the throne of grace and there beholding the glory of God above the Mercy Seat, may we have communion with the Most High. Heal all our diseases and forgive us all our trespasses.

Still, Lord, though healed of a former lameness so that now we have strength, we need a further touch from Thee. We are so apt to get dull and stupid. Come and help us, Lord Jesus. A vision of Thy face will brighten us, but to feel Thy Spirit touching us will make us vigorous. Oh! for the leaping and the walking of the man born lame. May we today dance with holy joy like David before the Ark of God. May a holy exhilaration take possession of every part of us. May we be glad in the Lord. May our mouths be filled with laughter and our tongues with singing, "For the Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

Today help Thy people to put on Christ. May we live as those who are alive from the dead, for He is the quickening Spirit and may we feel Him to be so. If any part of us is still dead, Lord, quicken it. May the life which has taken possession of our heart take possession of our head. May the brain be active in holy thought. May our entire being, indeed, respond to the life of Christ and may we live in newness of life.

Charles Spurgeon, 1834-1892