

Amazing Good News that God has revealed – Eph.3:1-13

Paul uses the word “mystery” 4 times –v.3,4,6,9

English – secret, puzzling, obscure

Greek – previously hidden; now openly revealed

1. A surprising messenger

Paul's astonishment at being God's messenger:-

- a. A former rebel – 1 Tim.1:12-15
- b. A despiser of Gentiles
- c. Captured by God's grace – v.1
 - arresting & transforming him – Eph.2:8,9
 - receiving God's revelation – 3:2-6
 - commissioned to proclaim the Gospel – 3:7,8

Implications for us

- a. Are we astonished that God should choose, save & commission us?
- b. Do we see our lives as belonging totally to Jesus – “prisoners of Christ Jesus”?

2. An astounding message

a. Focused on Jesus Christ – v.4,8

1. His person & work

2. His blessings for us – Eph.1,2

b. The reconciliation of all nations

1. Glimpsed in the O.T. – Gen.12:3; Is.19:23-25

2. Now openly revealed – v.3,4,6,9

3. Jew & Gentile united – v.6

c. Proclaiming & displaying the message

a. Proclaiming -Paul, a servant of the Gospel–v.7

- a debtor – Rom.1:14
- it is wrong to keep good news to ourselves

2 Kings 7:9

b. Displaying v.10

3. Vital challenge

Great challenge & encouragement

a. Evangelism

- we must not keep the Gospel to ourselves
- an overflow of our knowing the riches of Christ

b. The Church

- how committed are we?
- do we display the Gospel?