



**THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST  
AND THE MANIFOLD WISDOM  
OF GOD ON DISPLAY**

**Better Together: Ephesians**

**3**

# EPHESIANS 3:1

**For this reason I, Paul, the  
prisoner of Christ Jesus for  
the sake of you Gentiles—  
(NIV)**

# EPHESIANS 3:2-3

**2 Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.**

# EPHESIANS 3:4-6

**4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. 6 This mystery is ...**

# EPHESIANS 3:6

**And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. NLT**

# **WILLIAM BARCLAY:**

**The basic sin of the ancient world was contempt. The Jews despised the Gentiles as worthless in the sight of God. At worst they existed only to be annihilated ... [and] .... At best they existed to be the slaves of Israel.**

# CONTINUED

**To minds which could think like that it was incredible that the grace and the glory of God were for the Gentiles ... in the ancient world the barriers were complete. No one had ever dreamed that God's privileges were for all people.”**

# **THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST**

**Inheritance available to all  
(both Jew + Gentile)  
through Christ, together.**



# EPHESIANS 3:10-11

**<sup>10</sup> God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord. NLT**

# MANIFOLD WISDOM



**Photo Credit:  
Joan Brunner**

**... ON DISPLAY**

**Paul tells them that God's  
intent was and is and has  
always been to use the  
Church as the Display.**

# MORGAN HARPER NICHOLS:



# **MORGAN HARPER NICHOLS:**

**“There are no two sides of the aisle in the kitchen. There is a table and there are chairs. There are human beings bound together by a need for nourishment in order for that to happen we have to bring our ingredients together to create a feast so that everyone can be fed ...**

# **... CONTINUED**

**... For unity to happen, we have to acknowledge the ingredients that have worked and the ones that have been missing. In the kitchen, there are no two sides of the aisle. There is a pot in front of us and its time to cook. Some of what we will try will work. Some of what we will try will not. But the water is already boiling on the stove and we need to eat. Let's get to work.” – Morgan Harper Nichols**

# EPHESIANS 3:12

**<sup>12</sup> Now we can come fearlessly right into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome when we come with Christ and trust in him. TLB.**



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