



Ephesians 3:1-13 (LEB)

3 On account of this I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles ²—if indeed you have heard *about* the stewardship of God’s grace given to me for you. ³According to revelation the mystery was made known to me, just as I wrote beforehand in brief, ⁴so that you may be able when you read to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ ⁵(which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit): ⁶*that* the Gentiles are fellow heirs, and fellow members of the body, and fellow sharers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, ⁷of which I became a servant, according to the gift of God’s grace given to me, according to the working of his power.

⁸To me, the least of all the saints, was given this grace: to proclaim the good news of the fathomless riches of Christ to the Gentiles, ⁹and to enlighten everyone *as to* what *is* the administration of the mystery hidden from the ages by God, who created all *things*, ¹⁰in order that the many-sided wisdom of God might be made known now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places* through the church, ¹¹according to the purpose of the ages which he carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access in confidence through faith in him. ¹³Therefore I ask *you* not to be discouraged at my afflictions on behalf of you, which are your glory.

The Outline

- Paul’s status (3:1)
- Paul’s stewardship (3:2-7)
- Paul’s ministry (3:8-12)
- Paul’s request (3:13)

The Central Idea

Engraced and empowered by God, all believers (from the very least to the greatest) have an important role to play as the church displays God’s wisdom to angelic beings.

Personal Application

Discussion Questions

- After hearing today's sermon and reading Ephesians 3:1-13, what grabbed your attention?
- Paul wrote this letter as a prisoner. Have you ever visited a prison or known someone in prison? What do you imagine prison to be like?
- Paul was a steward or an administrator of God's gracious plan. Have you ever been put in charge of something or someone as a steward?
- When was the mystery of the gospel disclosed (see v. 5)?
- What is the content of the mystery that has been revealed (see v. 6)?
- Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles sent to tell them about Christ. Who are you sent to tell about Christ?
- In Christ, we have boldness and confident access to God. How does that impact our times of prayer and worship?
- Paul's ministry brought him suffering. How can we not lose heart when suffering comes our way?
- Is there an immediate application you know you need to make after studying Ephesians 3:1-13? What does God want you to know, believe, desire, or do in response to His Word?