

“SPIRITUAL MYSTERY SERIES”
 Delivered to **DANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**
Lord’s Day Night June 29th, 2016
Elder Jeff E. King Th.M.

Subject: Mystery of the Gospel.

Review - 1 Cor. 14: 1-5

1. Follow after charity, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but rather that ye may prophesy.
- 2 For he that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth *him*; howbeit **in the spirit he speaketh mysteries**.
- 3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort.
- 4 He that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.
- 5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater *is* he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

Apostle Paul was not rebuking them for revealing **truth of the mysteries** but rebuking the Corinthians, for the confusion and disorder in their assemblies, and giving directions how these gifts were to be exercised for the profit and edification of the church.

Every true minister of the gospel is "**a steward of the mysteries of God**"

1Cor. 4:1

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

A Spiritual Mystery: has three facts.

1. It is hid
2. It is revealed by the Spirit of God
3. It is a truth beyond reason/logic alone.

Note: ...truth of the mysteries.

Truth is both relative and absolute: the philosophers were not the first to figure this out.

Absolute: God is good.

Relative: Barnabas was a good man.

...In the Spirit he speaketh mysteries

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First Mystery: Gospel

Eph. 6:15-20

15. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
18. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19. And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to **make known the mystery of the gospel,**
20. For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Probably the most well-known “mystery” we will study.

3 Points

(1) However; let look at some little known facts. There is something called “Behind the Scenes”.

Angry Birds:

I keep hearing something about angry birds. (Not sure what all the fuss is about)

But here- in Matthew 13- we find something fascinating!!

1. The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.
2. And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
3. And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
4. And when he sowed, some *seeds* fell by the way side, and **the fowls came and devoured them up:**
5. Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
6. And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
7. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
8. But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
9. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

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...the fowls came and devoured them up: (Also Mark 4/Luke8)

Gill: the other evangelists say, "the fowls of the air"; and so the Vulgate Latin, and Munster's Hebrew Gospel, and some copies; **and mean the devils;** so called, because their habitation is in the air; hence **they are said to be "the power of the air":** and because of their ravenous and devouring nature, their swiftness to do mischief, and their flocking in multitudes, where the word is preached, to hinder its usefulness, as fowls do, where seed is sowing. Satan, and his principalities, and powers, rove about in the air, come down on earth, and seek whom they may devour, and often mix themselves in religious assemblies, to do what mischief they can;

(2) Col. 4: 3&4

3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

4 That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

-The words imply that, **to do justice to the gospel, or to preach it as it ought to be preached,** we need a special Divine influence, and the prayers of our brethren.

-Then beware of laying down a pillow!

-The gospel is a message that **abounds with deep wisdom,** and therefore **we ought to possess a deep insight into it.** (Fuller)

(3) North Liberty Baptist Association (MO)
 Circular Letter, 1848

We found our missions upon apostolic example. Our Lord's commission, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach,' &c., was certainly understood by the apostles, and their acts are a standing commentary upon it. How did they obey it? Let us see. At the first, **the 'mystery,'** 'that the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and partakers of His promise in Christ by **the gospel'** (Ephesians 3; 4, 6), was hidden from the eyes of the apostles, hence for some time they 'preached the gospel to the Jews only' (Acts 11:19). Peter finally arrives at Joppa, where in the vision, he is taught to call no man 'common,' but to regard all men as interested in the 'common salvation.' He was here taught that 'God is no respecter of persons' (Acts 10:34, 35).