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(**THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST**)

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Words Of Art: "Dispensation" – G3622 *oy-kon-om-ee'-ah* First used NT: Luke 16:2 \*

From G3623; *administration* (of a household or estate); specifically a (religious) "economy": - dispensation, \* stewardship.

In the OT you might like to look at "Overseer" H6485 A good example would be Gn. 39:4 where Joseph was made the overseer of Potiphar's household.

In the English language dispensation: Dis`pen`sa'tion is simply the act of dispensing or dealing out; distribution

Another example of dispensation is found in the Black's Law Dictionary which states: "An exemption from some laws; a permission to do something forbidden; an allowance to omit something committed; the canonistic name for a license. A relaxation of law for the benefit or an advantage of an individual. In the United States, no power exists, except in the legislature, to dispense with law; and then it is not so much a dispensation as a change of the law."

## **OPENING REMARKS:**

- For what cause is he praying this prayer in Eph. 3:14 ?

**Eph 3:14** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Eph 3:15** Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

**Eph 3:16** That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

## **Prayer**

- Making the effort to overcome sin and why we need to

**Eph 3:1** For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

**Eph 3:2** If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

**Eph 3:3** How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

**Eph 3:4** Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand [*consider*] my knowledge in the mystery of [*THE*] Christ)

- Considering God's understanding of the Messiah
- What is the purpose of the Messiah?

**Eph 3:5** Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the *[in]* Spirit; (in God's Spirit)

- Key point: To understand the mystery of God and the mystery of the messiah you've got to have the Spirit of God

*G1484 Gentiles eth'-nos*

Probably from G1486; a *race* (as of the same *habit*), that is, a *tribe*; specifically a *foreign (non-Jewish)* one (usually by implication *pagan*): - Gentile, heathen, nation, people.

**Eph 3:6** That the Gentiles *[nations]* should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by *[through]* the gospel:

"then shall the end come" *See: Mat. 24:14*

- Going back to creation
- Knowing the end from the beginning
- Dealing with the inward beast
- Being of the same body and partakers of the promise that he is giving us in Christ
- Why did it take the Holy Spirit to reveal the mystery?

**Eph 1:9** Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

**Eph 1:10** That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:

- All men can be in the same body

**Eph 3:6** That the Gentiles *[nations]* should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by *[through]* the gospel:

**1Co 1:21** For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

- One body, one Spirit, one Lord and one God and Father *See: Eph. 4:4-6*

**Eph 3:7** Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

**Eph 3:8** Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

- Why unsearchable?

- A message of faith *See: Rom. 10:17*
- the mystery and riches of the anointed one
- Can you be serving God without the body of Christ ? \_\_Yes or \_\_No
- We have the opportunity to share the unsearchable riches of Christ

**Eph 3:9** And to make all *men* see *[and to shed light]* what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, *[not Christ]* who created all things by Jesus Christ:

- The Messiah concept
- The inward person was created
- Standing alone and the importance of the Messiah
- We are to walk in his shoes
- The purpose of God
- The fellowship of the mystery

**Eph 3:10** To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

- Narrowing it down to the church
- Principalities and powers as it applies to people and concepts

**Luk 12:11** And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

- Looking at the outward/inward principalities and powers visible and invisible

Back to Eph 3:10

**Eph 6:12** For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, *[the world rulers of darkness, of this age]* against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

- What rules the world in this age?
- Who or what are we at war with?
- Back to Eph 3:10
- It's only the church that overcomes the lies

- Through the church

Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

- This is for all of us

Eph 3:15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

Eph 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

- You want to have the Spirit of he who raised Christ from the dead: *See Rom. 8:9-11*

- ✓ That you would have the spirit of the father in your inner man
- ✓ That Christ would dwell in your heart by [through] faith

Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

- ✓ That the riches of God are unsearchable
- ✓ That you are rooted and grounded in love *[truth]*
- ✓ That you have the ability to comprehend

Eph 3:18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

Eph 3:19 And to know *[G1097 to known by means of experience]* the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Eph 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Eph 3:21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by *[in]* Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

- How do we get to the fulness of Christ?

- This is the key:

Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth *[but being true]* in love, *[we]* may grow up into him *[Jesus]* in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

Eph 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

(BBE [*Bible in Basic English*])

**Eph 4:15** But saying true words in love, may come to full growth in him, who is the head, even Christ;

**Eph 4:16** Through whom all the body, being rightly formed and united together, by the full working of every part, is increased to the building up of itself in love.

- There is a work for everybody in the Church to do

The last study: "[2017-04-01 A DEBTOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS](#)"

- The power of Christ is in the Spirit of God
- Applying the Spirit of God
- When you pray for the Spirit of God
- An example of being dead to the law

Ask, and It Will Be Given *See: Mat. 7:7-12; Luke 11:9-13*

**Deu 32:4** *He is* the Rock, his work *is* perfect: for all his ways are judgment [*determination*]: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right *is* he.

- When you see it the way He [*The Father*] sees it, you can be set free from the problem
- Coming together in order to help each other
- One body. one spirit with many members [*read the whole chapter 1 Cor. 12*]
- The Spirit of love will give us answers
- The Spirit of the Father quickens our mortal flesh to do what needs to be done as we apply it
- The Father will give us his Spirit if we ask [*you seek the Lord until you have the answer*]
- Knowing this truth you are obligated to ask

### **TA-DA! CLOSING REMARKS**

- Working out your own salvation *See: Phi. 2:12*
- It is through the church that spiritual wickedness is overcome
- Comprehending the full package
- If you continue in sin, there's no sacrifice *See Heb. 10:26*
- Being transparent
- We can overcome and we can reach the fulness with each other's help.