

## The Mysteries from Paul

- I. The Pauline mysteries are for Christian spiritual maturing.
  1. A mystery was truth previously hidden but now made plain by Paul's explanation (Rom. 16:25; Col. 1:26).
  2. Paul had a special relationship with Christ and role in explaining the Christian life (Eph. 3:2-3).
- II. There are about 17 Gospels in the New Testament, for example:
  1. False gospels (2 Cor. 11:4; Gal. 1:6).
  2. The gospel of judgment (Rev. 14:6-7 *cf.* 16:9).
  3. The gospel of the Kingdom from the Heavens (Mt. 4:17, 23).
  4. Therefore, not every gospel is for salvation.
- III. The context of Rom. 16:25).
  1. The Romans were already Christians before Paul was revealing the mystery Gospel (Rom. 1:7; 16:17).
  2. The Gospel for salvation was preached at Pentecost about 32 A.D. (Acts 2:32, 36 *cf.* 38).
  3. Paul believed the Gospel for salvation about 34 A.D. (Acts 9:17).
  4. Therefore, the Mystery Gospel cannot be for salvation.
- IV. The Gospel for maturity was revealed directly to Paul by Christ (Gal. 1:11-12). This Gospel is:
  1. To 'establish', render mentally steadfast, confirm (Rom. 16:25).
  2. Is after salvation (*e.g.*, Rom. 1:11; 1 Thes. 3:2; 2 Thes. 2:17; 3:3).
  3. Has strong opposition (Eph. 6:19).
  4. Christians can give up this Gospel and remain saved (Gal. 1:6 *cf.* 3:1-3).
  5. Concerns the grace from Christ (Gal. 1:6).
  6. Involves **The Christ** (Gal. 1:7).

The Mystery Gospel reveals to us the Good News that after salvation a Christian is provided the provisions to mature spiritually in Christ, with divine enabling. This Gospel is related to **The Christ**.