

## **The Mysteries from Paul**

### *The Mystery of The Christ as related to the Father*

- I. The Mystery of 'The Christ' as a new creation.
  1. 'The Christ' is the Body and the Head—a relationship that is the result of Spirit baptism (1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15; 5:23; Col. 1:18; 2:19).
  2. 'The Christ' was not a mystery (1 Cor. 1:13 cf. Eph. 3:3-4).
  3. The interdependent relationship is the mystery.
  4. The New Man:
    - 1) Christ creating the New Man in Himself (Eph. 2:15).
    - 2) A new creation comprised of both Jew and Gentile (2 Cor. 5:17).
  5. *The New Man* emphasizes:
    - 1) New creation (2 Cor. 5:17).
    - 2) No racial distinctions (Eph. 2:15-16).
    - 3) Renewal of mind (Col. 3:10).
    - 4) Complete opposite of the Old Man (Col. 3:9-10).
  6. *The Body of Christ* emphasizes the interdependence of the members under the Head (1 Cor. 12:27; Eph. 4:240).
  7. 'The Christ' emphasizes the Body and the Head in a symbiotic relationship (1 Cor. 12:21; Eph. 4:15).
- II. The Mystery regarding 'The Christ' as related to the Father (Col. 2:2-3).
  1. Many textual problems in verse two because they misunderstood the mystery by mistaking 'The Christ' as referring to the Person of Christ.
  2. The mystery is the relationship of God the Father to "The Christ".
  3. God the Father's relationship to 'The Christ':
    - 1) Those that make up "The Christ" were raised and seated together in the heavenlies in Christ (Eph. 2:6).
    - 2) Our spiritual lives are hidden in 'The Christ' in the Father (Col. 3:3; 2:3; 1 Jn. 5:11).
  4. The Church is in the Father (1 Thes. 1:1; 2 Thes. 1:1).
  5. The Church has a relationship to the Father comparable to the Son's relationship to the Father (Jn. 17:21-22).
  6. Eternal Life involves an intimate, active relationship with the Father as well as the Son.