

Connect - HUGG - Serve



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**The Mystery of God's Grace
(What is Salvation?)**

Ephesians 3:1-12

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Introduction:

The Bible is not primarily about us humans and what we have done or should do because that is secondary. The Bible is about what our creator God has done, is currently doing, and what He will do to rescue us from the mess that our fall into sin has gotten us into.

God's grace is suffused throughout the story of scripture because, fundamentally, we don't deserve to be rescued. The essence of the Christian religion consists in this, that the creation of the Father, devastated by sin, is restored in the death of the son of God, and re-created by the Holy Spirit into the Kingdom of God. So everything God has done in this world, especially, what He has done through Christ, is His Grace unto us.

Let's look at three things regarding the Mystery of God's Grace.

1. Access _____.

The privilege of entering into the presence of God through the work of Jesus Christ.

- Only the pure have access to God. (Ps 24:3-4; Ps 41:12; John 3:21-22)
- The wicked do not have access to God. (Ps 101:7; Is 59:2)

2. _____; The Gracious Rescue!

- Paul a steward of "The Mystery". (Ep 3:1)
- God has formed a rescue plan. (Ep 3:3) According to the gift of God's grace.
- The Mystery not revealed to previous generations. (Ep 3:5)

3. _____

- Both Jews and Gentiles share equally the riches of God's grace. (Ep 3:6)
- Ephesians 3:7-8 is revealing that what's happening is rooted in God's eternal purpose. "The Mystery was made known to me by revelation". Galatians 1: 11-12, 15; Acts 9:15, 22:21, 26:17-18. "When you read it you are able to perceive, become aware of my insights into the Christian mystery". (ep 3:4)
- God's purpose was to use the Church to display His wisdom to all unseen rulers and authorities in heavenly places. (Ep 3:10)
- Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. (EP 3:12)

