

MYSTERIES OF THE CHURCH

Two definitions of a Mystery: “A truth revealed for the first time.”
 “A truth not revealed until the proper time.”

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Two biblical definitions of a mystery:

Eph 3:9 “mystery. . . from the beginning of the world had been hid in God”
Rom 16:25 “mystery which was kept secret since the world began”

17 occurrence of “mystery” in the Church epistles

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this **mystery**, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

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1 Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a **mystery**, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

1 Cor 4:1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the **mysteries** of God.

1 Cor 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all **mysteries**, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

1 Cor 14:2 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**.

1 Cor 15:51 Behold, I shew you a **mystery**; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

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 3:3,4 How that by revelation he made known unto me the **mystery**; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

* Eph 3:9 To make all men see what is the fellowship of the **mystery**, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

* Eph 5:32 This is a great **mystery**: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Eph 6:19 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,

Col 1:26 Even the **mystery** which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this **mystery** among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Col 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the **mystery** of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

Col 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:

2 Thes 2:7 For the **mystery** of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.



NOTES:

- Not all mysteries are as clear as others.
 - The usage of “mystery” does not seem to be in the same category as Eph 3.3,4 or Eph 5.32 [which were accompanied by an explanation by Paul].
- A. Jesus’ “mysteries” were different from Paul’s in that they were mysteries of the Kingdom, not the Church universal.
- B. Our brief discussion here only deals with the mysteries which apply uniquely to the Church Age.
- C. Mysteries were unknown in the Old Testament by this word.

