

Doctrine of the Mystery

1. The Greek word **Musterion** is that which is primarily known to the **Mustes**, "the initiated."
2. In the New Testament "**Musterion**" denotes not the mysterious but that which is outside the range of unassisted apprehension.
3. Comprehension, and thus apprehension, is made possible only by divine revelation, in a manner and at a time appointed by God and to those only who are illumined by His Spirit.

Col 1:26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints.

4. There was an inkling of the mystery protocol in the Kingdom Age.

Mar 4:10 When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.

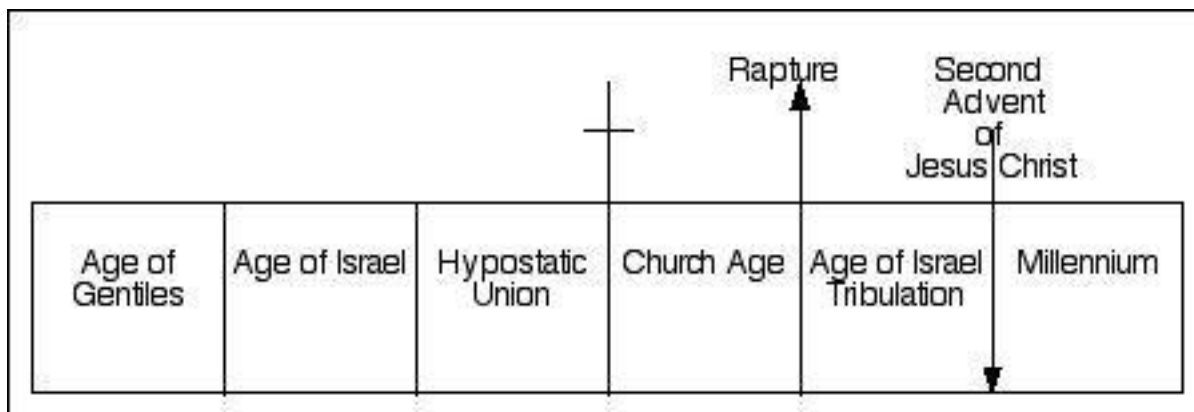
Mar 4:11 He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables.

5. The mystery, as used in the Epistles, refers to doctrines not provided in other dispensations.

Eph 3:2 Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, Eph 3:3 that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.

Eph 3:4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

Eph 3:5 which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.



6. Both the prophets of old and even angels desired to know the mystery doctrines available to us. We are VIPs!

1Pe 1:9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

1Pe 1:10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care,

1Pe 1:11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

1Pe 1:12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

7. The mystery doctrines were not revealed in the Old Testament.

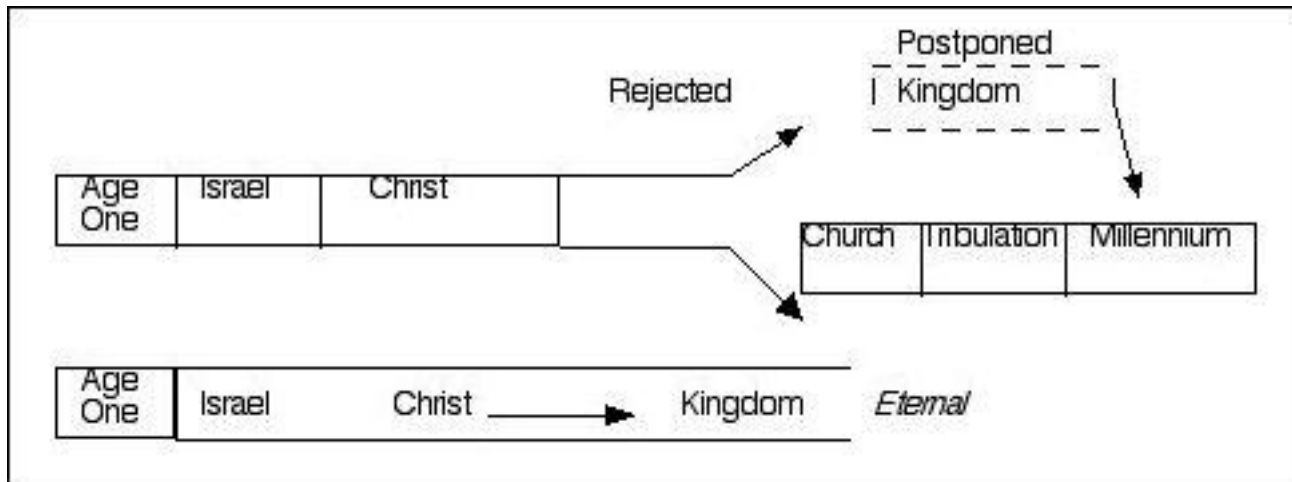
Rom 16:25 Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,

Rom 16:26 but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him--

7.1 Israel's Old Testament view of the dispensation chart is certainly different from our view. They expected to go from the Age of Israel to a forever Kingdom.

GENTILES				ISRAEL	KINGDOM
Positive Volition	Negative Volition	Noah's Family	Jewish Patriarchs	Jewish Client Nation	+
Creation of man	Fall of Adam	Flood	Abraham	Moses and the Exodus	Birth of Christ

7.2 Israel rejected their Messiah, thus the need for the Church Age, the Tribulation and the Millennium.



8. Israel (true Israel--believing Israel) will learn the mystery later in the Tribulation and Millennium. Rom 11:24-26 True Israel is defined in Rom 9:6-13.

Rom 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.

Rom 9:6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

Rom 9:7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Rom 9:8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Rom 9:9 For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son.

Rom 9:10 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

Rom 9:11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Rom 9:12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

Rom 9:13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

9. The mystery was known in eternity past and is part of God's divine decrees.

1Co 2:7 No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

1Co 2:8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

1Co 2:9 However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"--

1Co 2:10 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

1Co 2:11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

1Co 2:12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

1Co 2:13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.

1Co 2:14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

10. Every pastor-teacher is a steward of the mystery.

1Co 4:1 So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God.

1Co 4:2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

11. The Rapture is part of the mystery.

1Co 15:51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed--

1Co 15:52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

12. The revelation of the mystery had to await the Church Age and God's perfect timing.

Eph 1:9 And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

Eph 1:10 to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

13. Knowing about the mystery is a requirement for both the pastor-teacher and the deacon.

1Ti 3:9 Like the pastor-teacher the deacon of must hold the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

1Ti 3:10 And let them also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.