

“How Did We Get Here / What Are We Doing?”

Eph. 3:6-12

Knowing Him and Making Him Known

Knowing where God is heading and how He plans to get there shapes how we got here and what we are doing.

Paul speaks of a mystery, a mystery that works a reconciliation between two warring factions. It is a work so great that it could only be accomplished by grace. Paul calls this work “The unfathomable riches of Christ (v. 8).” In the reconciliation of His people and the forming of one new man - His body - He displays His manifold wisdom (v.10).

I. We are recipients of grace (Eph. 2:7, 8)

A. Grace reveals the unfathomable riches of Christ (vv. 7, 8).

We speak of grace without truly understanding what it means. The Scripture speaks of grace revealing the surpassing riches of His grace and the unfathomable riches of Christ.

How unsearchable is His grace? Consider with me these ideas:

- We hated God and He loved us.
- We rejected God and He accepted us.
- We pushed God away and He drew us near.
- We failed God and He lifted us up.

Grace sent us the only begotten Son of God. Grace was behind the incarnation whereby the Creator became that which He created. Grace placed Christ on the cross. Grace moved life to die.

This is how unsearchable grace is. What we think we know of His grace is but the hem of His garment and the whisper of His voice.

B. Grace reveals the manifold wisdom of God (v. 10).

Manifold means, “multicolored, diverse.” The wisdom of God “has a great variety of forms.” I never tire at trying to see all that He is, all that He is doing, and all that I now have because of Him.

Continued on the other side...

Think about how wise, creative, and imaginative our God is. He could have chosen any number of ways to redeem His people, but He chose the way of the cross and the death of His only Son. Where is the wisdom in this?

As recipients of grace we are now to be conduits for grace.

II. We are conduits for grace (1 Corinthians 15:10, 1 Peter 4:10, 11)

1 Corinthians 15:10

- Notice the contrasting connector, “but.” Its usage suggests there is a sense of culmination and climax.

1 Peter 4:10, 11

- Notice the word “serving.” It is a present active participle. It speaks of a habitual, continuous activity. I am always serving others. It was used for “waiting on tables.”
- Notice also the word “steward.” The word denotes a slave who was responsible for managing his master’s property or household and for distributing wages, food, etc. to its members.
- A “steward” was one who served as a house manager; he had no wealth of his own, but distributed his master’s wealth according to his master’s will and direction.

As a recipient of grace, I have now become a conduit for grace. In all of my service, I am simply a dispenser of a grace received.

Peter ends with, “To Him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.” The praise and credit for Christian ministry should always be given to Christ.