

Series: Highlights of Ephesians (3)

## THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THE ANGELS

### Ephesians 3:10-11

Last week we saw that **you** are God's Masterpiece, because of His new creation of you in Christ.

But it is not all about you. Paul broadens our horizons to see the bigger picture of His new creation: The Church.

From 2:11 to 3:13 he focuses on this. The climax comes in 3:10-11. Ask 4 Qs of these 2 verses:

I. What does the Church display? 3:10a

Ans: the **multi-faceted wisdom of God**. Think diamond.

What are some of the \_\_\_\_\_ it displays?

A. Peace: 2:11-18

You were alienated from God and other people

Christ established **peace** by His cross (2:16)

1. With God: v15, 17. *Announces* peace

2. With one another: v15, 17-18: Jew & Gentile!!

See the wisdom of God

B. One New Humanity: 2:15, 19-22

One People (v15, 19a)

One Family (v15, 19b)

One Holy Temple (v15, 20-22)

See the wisdom of God

C. Mystery: 3:1-6

The covenant was with Israel, God's unique people

The Law failed; Israel failed; the covenant with Adam failed

But God made a new covenant: with His own Son, Who

fulfilled it perfectly, and took the curse of all who

failed—who trust in Him. He brought peace with God

ALL the nations/Gentiles share in this promise (v6)!

Therefore there is no boasting or superiority (2:18; 3:12)

This cuts out the heart of racism: Jewish & Gentile

So Paul's focus is that God's wisdom is displayed in

cultures that are hostile to each other living in peace

uniquely in the Church.

See the wisdom of God.

D. Riches of Christ: 3:7-9

His riches for us are unsearchable

No one could have ever thought up the Gospel, let alone accomplished it!

The Gospel is the solution to every problem

See the wisdom of God

So the Church, the embodiment of Grace—Peace—Oneness, displays His infinite wisdom as a diamond.

Learn to see the Church as He does

II. To whom does He display this? 3:10b

To the unfallen angels

Creation: Job 38:4-7

Heavens – animals – our bodies – our souls

Redemption: Incarnation – substitutionary sacrifice

The Church is the graduate school of the angels!

III. How certain is it? 3:11

His eternal purpose! Cf 1:10; Rev 5:9-10

IV. How do we move toward it?

A. Meditate on the wonder of the Gospel: dual peace

B. Work toward CPC becoming more multi-cultural

1. Recognize I have a culture

2. Recognize I prefer to hang with my culture and avoid people from other cultures

3. Recognize that I need people from other cultures to see Christ & the Gospel more fully

4. Determine to get closer to some people from different cultures within CPC (HFGs)

5. Be willing for CPC to change:

• Worship

• Leadership: elders, staff!

Catch God's vision of His Church

Be encouraged at the supernatural peace that exists

Press for more in our midst

Give the angels something to sing about!