

# Ephesians 3:1-8

Date | 12/11/11

*1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you; 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; 6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, 7 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power. 8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ*

## **Paul explains his role in preaching to the gentiles**

### **Paul's ministry in the gospel (vs. 1-4)**

1. How can Paul see his ministry as a stewardship (responsibility) and a gift (vs. 7)?
2. Paul says that he is a prisoner of Christ, but he is actually in a Roman prison. What does he mean?
3. Paul refers here to a mystery. That word speaks of a revealed secret. What is the content of the mystery? (vs. 6)

### **The gospel in Paul's ministry (vs. 5-8)**

1. Note the word "fellow" used three times in vs. 6. How was that new?
2. Verse 6 refers to "the promise" that we are now partakers of. Read Ephesians 1:13. What is the promise Paul is talking about?
3. What does Paul say that God has given him to help him fulfill his stewardship?
4. Although we don't have Paul's ministry as an apostle, how can we learn from his example for the ministry God has given us?