

Ephesians 3:8-13

Date | 01/01/12

8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him. 13 Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

Paul explains God's great plan for the church

Paul's role in the church (vs. 8-9)

1. What are some of the riches of Christ that Paul here calls unfathomable?
2. Vs. 9 says that Paul's mission was also to shed light on a mystery. What is the mystery? (see vs. 6)
3. How do these two things (the riches and the mystery) relate?
4. How can we make sure that we like Paul are not just connecting people to Jesus but connecting them to the church (the mystery)?

The church's role in God's plan (vs. 10-13)

1. Vs. 10 gives us God's purpose in Paul's ministry. Summarize this purpose.
2. How is God's wisdom made known through the church?
3. What activity does boldness and confident access imply?
4. What part does prayer play in the mission of the church? What things can we pray for right now that will make God's wisdom visible?