

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of February 11, 2007

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one. Col. 4:2-6 (NKJV)

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

God was manifested in the flesh,

Justified in the Spirit,

Seen by angels,

Preached among the Gentiles,

Believed on in the world,

Received up in glory. 1 Tim. 3:16 (NKJV)

The Life of Prayer

Mystery and Prayer

David Williamson

I like a good mystery. If well written, the facts are there for all to find and know, but hidden from view for all except those read carefully. The story is often a very good read; fascinating and remarkable people and places (or sometimes just ordinary people). The chase to find the truth, as well as the criminal, adds an excitement. The twists and turns of the story lead to the truth, but also contain many false leads and dead ends. If well written a good mystery will reveal interesting information about the people and places.

The Father has a mystery. It is well written and fascinating. It is the story of people and places, but foremost it is about His Son.

*In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace
which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,
having made known to us the mystery of His will,
according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,
that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times
He might gather together in one all things in Christ,*

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both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him.

Ephes. 1:7-10 (NKJV)

This mystery was written from the dawn of history. It is a great story. Read one of the early parts.

So the Lord God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle,

And more than every beast of the field;

On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust

All the days of your life.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman,

And between your seed and her Seed;

He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Genesis 3:14-15 (NKJV)

If you have eyes to see and ears to hear you can see even at this very early stage of the mystery the end of the story. The rest of the story is just that, the rest of the story, how the Father will do this and why; it also is the revealing of the mystery to people.

And He said to them,

“To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God;

but to those who are outside, all things come in parables,”

Mark 4:11 (NKJV)

*Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel
and the preaching of Jesus Christ,*

according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began

but now has been made manifest,

and by the prophetic Scriptures has been made known to all nations,

according to the commandment of the everlasting God,

for obedience to the faith-- to God, alone wise,

be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

Romans 16:25-27 (NKJV)

The mystery stories we read have a result of a crime solved; we find out who “done it.” This mystery, the mystery presented by the Father, has a far more important result. This mystery is about the salvation of man. In verse 26 from this passage, there is a very important word; the key to the mystery. The mystery has been made manifest.

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Romans 16:26 (NKJV)

Manifest here means to render apparent. The mystery has been revealed.

*the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations,
but now has been revealed to His saints.*

*To them God willed to make known what are the
riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles:
which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

*Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom,
that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.*

To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Col. 1:26-29 (NKJV)

The revealing of this mystery is very important; if you know you can avoid mistakes.

*But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery,
the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,
which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known,
they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written:
“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”
But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.
For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*

1 Cor. 2:7-10 (NKJV)

However, the revealing of this mystery has even more important consequences for man. God has revealed, through His Spirit, the deep things of God. The deepest of the deep things is God's plan for salvation of man. Of all the mysteries known to man this is the most important. Man's life hangs in the balance. The revealing of this mystery is also very important in prayer.

There are many areas of life that need prayer; money, home, health, job, safety, or deliverance. However, of all our prayers most important is prayer for the salvation of men. It is important that God's salvation must be rendered apparent to men and women. Our prayer for family, friends, and nations must include an opening of eyes and ears. Unless the mystery is rendered apparent to the objects of our prayer they will continue to make mistakes. They will, as the men of Jerusalem at the time Jesus walked the earth, make great mistakes. Foremost of their mistakes was not recognizing Jesus as Lord of all. Salvation begins with God's mystery rendered apparent.

Perhaps our prayers could follow somewhat along these lines.

Father, my prayer is, manifest the mystery kept hidden until now. In Germany, Poland, China, Nepal, (you add the person, people or nation), you will render apparent to all who

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have eyes to see and ears to hear, the things, You have prepared for those who love You and for those who do not yet know they love You. Make known the mystery of Your will, by Your Holy Spirit. Bring the nations to You by revealing today Your nature, Your love, and Your salvation. Send forth mystery revealers; those who are agents of the Holy Spirit, held by His will, guided and aided by His power, those who with blessed feet, bring the good news to these lands. As Jesus went about doing good, healing all who were sick and oppressed; so let these go forth and heal the eyes that cannot not see You and open the ears that cannot hear You.

Father, my prayer is Holy Spirit draw men and women to the place of seeing and hearing. Lord Jesus thrust forth labors into these harvest fields. Father embrace and hold those won by Your love. Father I ask for the nations; that your mystery, hidden until now, will be manifest, rendered apparent, to the people of these nations.

Let us pray!

A Call for Prayer

*Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*

Psalm 2:8 (NKJV)

Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem –Pray for Jews to return to their homeland and for the veil that has covered their eyes to be removed so they may see the one whom they have pierced and acknowledge Him as the Messiah.

DK Limbu Daniel –Pray for the church in Nepal; pray for the planting of churches in Nepal and throughout the region for Nepalese people. *Thank you for praying for us. May God bless you, Pastor Daniel.*

Marianne and David Dean –Pray opportunities for meeting young people of East Asia. Pray that their hearts will be prepared to receive the Gospel message. *Thanks so much to all of you for your prayers, your love and support! You really have no idea how much it means to us!! - Marianne*

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the children of the school and for the start of school Feb. 22.

John Coon – Pray for all the arrangements for John's trip to Poland in May.

Mark Spencer – Pray for clarity in Patty and my hearing the voice of the Lord concerning personal direction, His leading for the church and ministry as well as His provision clearly seen and manifest. Also that we would take full advantage of the Spirit's declaration that the year 2007 would indeed be a year of open doors and of fruitful obedience. Thanks!

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Marek Kaminski – Pray for Marek and all the arrangements for ministry trips and meetings including the BBB conference and trips to Eastern Europe.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jacek, pray for the plans and organization of the outreaches this summer.

The Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries Conference – Pray for the plans for the fifth annual BBB Conference.

Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative – Pray for the prayer seminars and ministry in the Rosenheim area of Germany in the summer of 2007.

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for abundant provision for your church.

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