

SESSION 11
EPHESIANS 3.7-10

Overarching Themes in Ephesians: "The Letter dwells profoundly upon The Person of Jesus Christ and The Church." R.P Martin

Context For This Session: Paul's autobiographical reflection upon his call to the ministry of apostleship and his understanding of the dynamics of being a steward of the grace of God in the revelation of the Mystery, the Gentile's inclusion in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Learning Targets For Enduring Understanding From This Session: To understand the nature and purpose of God's call upon you to be, in Christ, a part of His Church that manifests the manifold wisdom of God to the world.

V 7 What is a minister?

How does Paul view the origin of his being a minister of the Gospel?

What reflection does Paul state regarding the unfolding role of the ministry given him?

The power of transformation unto purpose begins with and is sustained by the grace of God.

What is the relationship between the glory of God, the grace of God , and the power of God? 2 Cor 3.18 2 Cor.4.6

You behold the glory of God, you receive the grace of God and you are transformed by the power of God.

What is the only rational position that we can have before God in light of the nature and fulfilment of our calling ?

V 8a In this verse, how does Paul regard himself?

What do you think is behind this view of his being an apostle? Acts 9.4

How does Luke 7.47 relate to Paul's situation?

V 8b What summation does Paul give in this scripture regarding his ministry?

What do you think he means when he describes the riches of Christ for the believer as being unsearchable? 1 Cor2.9

V 9 What does Paul perceive as the goal of his preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ?

What implication for us in this moment in history is drawn from this verse?

What is emphasized in this verse as Paul connotes God as "The Creator of all things?"

V 10 This verse commands the essence of God's purpose for The Church. What do you think her purpose is?

" The Church on earth is the witness to and the vehicle of this reveal "mystery", and the hostile angelic powers are not only held in wonder at this but their death-knell is sounded with the proclamation that God in Christ has decisively acted for cosmic salvation and so brought their malign regime over human life to an end. "

R. P. Martin