**Great is the mystery of godliness – Proclaimed among the nations 1 Tim. 3:16**

**Focal Truth: Jesus Christ the great mystery of godliness has been proclaimed among the nations**

This is a statement of triumphant obedience & confidence! Preaching reveals the great mystery of godliness – Jesus Christ!

***Jesus Christ the great mystery of godliness has been proclaimed among the nations***

The Apostolic Church proclaimed Him among the nations

The Church of every generation must proclaim Him among the nations until Jesus comes again!

**Observations**

1. **Jesus Christ commanded the church to proclaim the gospel among nations Lk. 24:46 - 47**

*He said to them; Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the*

 *dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in*

 *His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem*

1. Jesus Christ proclaimed the gospel in His earthly ministry Lk 4:18 – 19

Jesus proclaimed the release of captives from sin 4:18

Jesus proclaimed the favorable year of the Lord – the year of salvation from sin 4:19

1. Jesus Christ commanded the church to proclaim the gospel Lk 24:47
2. Those who believed on Jesus Christ proclaimed the gospel

The leper – proclaimed Jesus Mk. 1:45

The man released from the legion of demons – proclaimed Him Mk. 5:19

The man who could not hear or speak when healed – proclaimed Him Mk 7:36

 Paul proclaimed the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ Acts 13:38 -39

1. **The Apostolic Church obeyed the command of Jesus Christ to proclaim the gospel among the nations Col. 1:5 – 6**

*Because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word*

 *of truth, the gospel which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly*

 *bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you*

 *heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from*

 *Epaphras*

1. Paul believed the gospel was being proclaimed among the nations
2. Paul describes the power of gospel preaching to change lives

The gospel bears fruit – more and more people believe

The church increases

The gospel gives understanding of the grace of God in truth

1. **Gospel proclamation reveals the great mystery of godliness Jesus Christ among the nations Col. 1:25 -26**

*Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, that is the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has not been manifested to His saints*

1. Gospel proclamation reveals the secret mystery of Jesus Christ to all who hear the message
2. Those who believe in the gospel accept the mystery of the gospel of Jesus Christ

*Paul prayed that their hearts may be encouraged, and knot together in love attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God’s mystery, that is Christ Himself – Col. 2:2*

1. **Gospel proclamation reveals the secret of the gospel among the nations Col. 1:27**

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

1. Gospel preaching reveals God’s riches of glory in Jesus Christ the great mystery of godliness

*For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures 1Cor. 15:3 -4*

1. The secret of the gospel is Christ in you in the hope of glory

**Christ in you – personal relationship with Jesus Christ**

**Christ in you the hope of glory – the hopeful confidence of eternal life in Jesus Christ**

 **Consider – Rom. 10 – Proclaiming the gospel among the nations the secret of the**

 **mystery of godliness**

1. How will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
2. How will they believe in whom they have not heard?
3. How will they hear without a preacher?
4. How will they preach unless they are sent?

*How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!*

*Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God*

**Things to be Remembered & Do**

1. **The church must obey Christ’s command to proclaim the gospel to all the nations Col. 1:28 – We proclaim Him**
2. **The church must admonish every person to believe the gospel**

**Col. 1:28 – Admonishing every man**

1. **The church must teach every person the gospel**

**Col. 1:28 – teaching every man will all wisdom**

1. **The goal of Gospel proclamation is for all to be saved**

**Col. 1:28 – that we may present every man complete in Christ**

**Great is the mystery of godliness – He was proclaimed among the nations**

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**