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

**Focal Truth: Jesus Christ is the great mystery of godliness**

Today we praise the Lord Jesus Christ the mystery of godliness – revealed at Christmas

Today we learn the **greatness of Jesus Christ the mystery of godliness**

**Observations**

1. **Jesus Christ is the great mystery of godliness 1 Tim. 3:16; 1 John 4:15**

*By common confession…by common agreement*

*Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he in God 1 John 4:15*

1. Believers confess by common agreement Jesus Christ is **the great mystery** of godliness

He is the hidden One revealed in the fullness of time

He is the hidden One unknown to the unbelieving

He is the secret One known only by the church

He is the seen One not seen by the unbelieving

He is the seen One seen by the believing

He is the Godly One – Glorifying God in His body!

*Our confession says: Jesus Christ is the One Mediator, fully God and fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man.*

*Peter confessed – You are the Christ, the Son of the living God*

*Great is the mystery – Jesus Christ has died, is risen and is coming again!*

1. **Believers confess that Jesus Christ is the great mystery of godliness – He**

**restores sinful man to a Holy God 1 John 4:9**

*By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him*

1. The great mystery of God’s love is the **sending** of Jesus Christ to earth

*By this the love of God was manifested in us that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world*

1. The great mystery of God’s love is that in Christ we can have eternal life

*So that we might live through Him*

1. Jesus Christ death on the cross reconciles sinners to God

*If while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son - Rom. 5:10*

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ - Rom. 5:1*

1. Jesus Christ has become the bridge to a relationship with God

*Through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of his cross, through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven Col. 1:20*

1. **Believers confess that Jesus Christ is the great mystery of godliness – He is the**

**Son of God sent to be the Savior of the world – 1 John 4:14**

*We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world*

1. The great mystery is that God the Father sent the Son as **Savior of the world**
2. The apostles confessed that God the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world

**Jesus is the Savior of the world** - He died for the sins **of all people born into the world -** He died for the sins of **every person born into the world**

1. The angels declared on the day of Christ’s birth - *Today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord* *Lk. 2:11*
2. Paul declared that Jesus Christ as Savior abolishes death & gives eternal life

*Who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel              2 Tim 9 – 10*

1. **Believers confess that Jesus Christ is the great mystery of godliness – He gives**

**salvation to all who believe in Him - 1 John 4:16**

*We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God and God abides in him*

1. The great mystery is believing the love that God the Father has for us comes through Jesus Christ our savior

*We have come to know and have believed the* ***love which God has for us...***

*Peter said, we have come to know and believe that you are the Holy One of God - John 6:68*

1. Believing in Jesus Christ is living in God’s love through Jesus Christ

*The one who abides in God and God abides in Him*

*We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; 1 John 3:16*

1. God lives within us as we live in God’s love through Jesus Christ

*By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us the of His Spirit 1 John 4:13*

1. Jesus prayed that all believers would live in eternal union with Him to tell the secret of Jesus Christ the mystery of godliness

*That they all may be one; even as You, Father are in Me, & I in You, that they may be in Us, so that the world may believe You sent Me*– John 17

***Things to be Remembered***

1. Jesus Christ is the great mystery of Godliness – worship Him in holy amazement!
2. Sinners reconciled to a holy God is a great mystery – If anyone is in Christ, he is a

new creature!

1. Jesus Christ come as Savior for sinners is a great mystery – Celebrate! Christ

receives sinful men!

1. Experiencing the love of God in Jesus Christ is a great mystery – Behold what

manner of love the Father has bestowed on us that we should be called the children of God

***Great is the mystery of godliness!***

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