

THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Its Progressive Unveiling

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QUOTATIONS OF WILLIAM BRANHAM

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mystery Hidden in God from the Beginning

- *The age-old cry for a God with skin on*
- *The answer to that cry lies in a mystery hidden from before the beginning of the world*
- *In the beginning God was an eternal Spirit dwelling in Heaven*
- *That hidden mystery before the world began was His purpose to express Himself, to reveal all His attributes*

That Purpose/Mystery Has Been Unfolding Through the Ages

- *Initially that expression was made visible in human bodily form, in the Logos, the Son of God*
- *The mystery was also partly expressed/foreshadowed in types & Old Testament believers*

- *But one day the mystery was revealed in its fulness in the Man Christ Jesus; the Son was not now just veiled in human form but, like us, in flesh*
- *But that was not the end; the purpose/mystery has been unfolding through the ages, right down to the present day*
- *The full, final unveiling of the divine purpose/mystery is not until the last days*

2.

THE MYSTERY FORESHADOWED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- *Christ is the principal theme of the Bible; He is in all the OT Scriptures*
- *In fact, He is all the Scriptures*

God Behind an Animal Skin Veil

- *The mystery of God veiled in flesh was foreshadowed in the OT by the Glory of God veiled behind the inanimate badger skins of the Tabernacle*

God Behind a Human Skin Veil

- *More particularly, it was foreshadowed by Christ behind the skin of living men*
- *The OT prophets not only spoke of Christ, they lived Him; their very lives reflected/expressed Him*
- *But they only reflected/ revealed/expressed Him in part*
- *Christ partially revealed in the flesh of His prophets was only the beginning of the gradual unfolding of God's hidden purpose/mystery to express Himself*

3.

THE ESSENCE OF THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Two Key Elements of the Mystery of God

- *The mystery of God is not one single mystery but several*
- *One of them is God in the flesh of Christ*
- *Another is God in you*

God's Threefold Purpose

- *The essence of the Mystery of God is the revelation of His threefold purpose*
- *The threefold purpose in summary*

4.

THE THREEFOLD PURPOSE IN DETAIL

The 1st Phase

*The Mystery of Godliness; The Mystery of Christ
God Fully Manifest in the Flesh/Body of Christ*

God Manifest in Flesh in Christ is the Revelation of God's Purpose & Hidden Mystery;
Christ Himself is the Mystery of God Revealed

The Original Purpose

- *God's original purpose was to reveal/express His full attributes to the people*
- *Even after the Fall brought separation, that purpose did not change*

Christ in the OT Prophets

- *God began to unfold His mystery by revealing Christ in the prophets*

Christ in a Body of Flesh

- *Then to express Himself & identify Himself with man, God came down to earth & revealed Himself in flesh in the Man Christ Jesus*
- *As a Man with a body, we could see, fellowship with, talk to, touch, feel & handle Him*
- *God manifest in the flesh of Christ was the revelation of Who God is*

That Body was the Dwelling-Place of God

- *In that body was all the fulness of the Godhead*
- *It was the fleshly Tabernacle/Dwelling Place of God*
- *God was hidden in that Tabernacle, behind the veil of Christ's flesh*

The 2nd Phase

The Mystery which is Christ in You

The Mystery Reproduced, Christ Fully Manifest in the Flesh/Body of His Church

The 2nd Phase of God's Unfolding Mystery:

*To Express Himself Through Christ in His Church, His Bride, His Body,
a People in Whom He Has the Pre-eminence*

The Church, the Tabernacle, the Dwelling Place of God

- *Just as the physical body of the Man Christ Jesus was the Tabernacle, the House, the Dwelling Place of God, so now is His mystical Body, the Church*
- *Just as in the OT God was veiled behind animal skin, so now He is veiled/hidden behind the skin of His Church*

The Church, the Fulness of Christ

- *Christ not only died to give His life for us, but to give His life to us*
- *When He poured out His Spirit on the Church, He poured out Himself*
- *Just as all the fulness of God was poured into the body of the Man Christ Jesus, so all the fulness of Christ was poured into men, into His Church, which is His Body*
- *That fulness was not poured into any one individual, but into the entire Body*

To See the Church is to See Christ/God

- *Christ indwelling believers makes them a full revelation of Himself*
- *The only way the world will ever see God today is in His Church, in the born-again believer*

The 3rd Phase

The Mystery Fulfilled

*The Ultimate Objective Achieved; The Plan of Redemption Fully Accomplished;
Full Restoration of All Lost at the Fall; Restoration of the Original Eden*

Redemption Planned Even Before the Fall

- *When Adam lost his original inheritance at the Fall, its title deed reverted to the original Owner*
- *But God had a plan to redeem & fully restore all the lost inheritance*

Restoration of the Lost Fellowship, Lost Kingdom, Lost Glory & Lost Body

- *Through His death on the Cross, we are restored to fellowship as at the beginning*
- *The restoration of the lost kingdom, Eden, will enable God to fellowship once again with His people & to express all His attributes*
- *To enable that full fellowship, during the Church Ages there has been a progressive recovery of the lost Glory of God, coming ever closer to the full original Glory*
- *What is God's plan/mystery to restore the lost original glory? "Christ in you"*
- *The climax of that restoration will be the redemption of the body, a resurrection body like His glorious body, enabling a fully restored face to face fellowship*

THE MYSTERY OF GOD

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A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

The Divine Mystery at Work Across the Ages

The Eternal Purpose

Nothing God does is without purpose. Behind all outward events of history is a coherent, mastermind plan, “*the eternal purpose*” (Ephesians 3:11).

- Conceived before the world began, that plan was at first a hidden mystery, “*kept secret since the world began*” (Romans 16:25; cp Ephesians 3:9).
- But in the present dispensation this mystery, “*which in other ages was not made known... is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit*” (Ephesians 3:5).

That divine purpose is also known as “*the mystery of God*” (Revelation 10:7).

The Mystery of God

There are several mysteries listed in the New Testament. Though at first this may seem to suggest several different, distinct mysteries, closer examination shows that many are but different facets or components of one single grand overall mystery, “*the mystery of God*”.

This mystery is described in general terms as

- “*The mystery of the gospel*” (Ephesians 6:19), and,
- “*The mystery of the faith*” (1 Timothy 3:9).

But these terms speak only of the **fact** of a mystery at the heart of the faith and of the gospel. What is the **content** of that mystery?

Its essence is found in two other mysteries,

- “*The mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh*” (i.e., of Christ) (1 Timothy 3:16); and
- “*The mystery which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*” (Colossians 1:27).

Like its satanic counterpart, “*the mystery of iniquity*” (2 Thessalonians 2:7), the mystery of God has been continuously at work over the years, seeking to bring its purpose to completion.

That completion will certainly come, for the Bible speaks of the day when, “*the mystery of God should be finished*” (Revelation 10:7).

What, then, is that mystery, that eternal purpose and plan of God? When shall that day be?

The Need for Spiritual Revelation

To understand this mystery/purpose/plan of God, spiritual discernment is imperative; the eyesalve of the Holy Ghost is essential. For,

“The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth (= discerneth) all things...” (1 Corinthians 2:14-15a).

We need for this day the same Anointing that was on the men of Issachar in their day at a time of much confusion. They, “*had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do*” (1 Chronicles 12:32).

The First Stage, God Manifest in the Flesh of Christ

As mentioned, the essence of the mystery of God is found in two other mysteries.

The first, “*the mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh*”, is the fuller unveiling of another mystery, “*the mystery of Christ*” (Ephesians 3:4; Colossians 4:3).

The Mystery of Christ

What does the expression, “*the mystery of Christ*”, mean?

- It does not mean the mystery that Christ **taught**, but the mystery that Christ **is**.
- He Himself is the **content** of the mystery. He **is** the mystery.

Why is He so described?

In what way was Christ God’s mystery?

The Mystery of Godliness, God was in Christ

The answer is in 1 Timothy 3:16, “*great is “the mystery of godliness, God was manifest in the flesh.*” The essence of the mystery of godliness is **God in flesh**. And that is what Christ was.

Before the Fall, God’s original intention for man was demonstrated in Adam. He was the image and glory of God (1 Corinthians 11:7) in a body of flesh.

After the Fall, Adam lost his glory. So, God sent a second Man (1 Corinthians 15:47), a new Man, the Man Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5). And, crucially, He too came in flesh.

- At birth, He was **made flesh** (John 1:14), taking upon Him **flesh** and blood (Hebrews 2:14).
- All the fulness of the Godhead dwelt in Christ **in a body** (Colossians 2:9).

(This is why a test of an antichrist spirit is the confession that Christ is come **in the flesh** (1 John 4:2-3).)

Christ’s body was God’s house. It was,

- ***The tabernacle of God.*** (In John 1:14; “dwelt” means literally, “tabernacled”.) God dwelt behind the veil of the flesh of Christ (Hebrews 10:20).
- ***The temple*** (literally, “dwelling place”) ***of God*** (John 2:19-21).

As well as being the dwelling place of God, like Adam, Christ was the image and glory of God (Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3).

- That image was not physical. He was the exact likeness of God’s character.
- As John 1:18 says, “*No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son... he hath declared him.*” (“Declared” means, explained, interpreted, i.e., by life as well as by words.)

Every detail of Christ’s life was a manifestation in flesh of how God Himself would have been in any given situation.

- His words (John 3:34; 8:38; 12:49-50).
- His deeds (John 5:19).
- His will (John 6:38).
- His doctrine (John 7:16).

In fact, to see Jesus in flesh was to see the invisible Father (John 12:45; 14:8-9).

In other words, the mystery of Christ is Christ as the full revelation of all of God ***in flesh***.

The Second Stage, Christ in You

But Christ in flesh is not the end of the plan/mystery of God.

- **“The mystery of godliness”**, God fully manifest in the flesh of the Man Christ Jesus, is but the foundation.
- There is a second stage, **“the mystery which is Christ in you”**, Christ fully manifest in the flesh of redeemed man.

The Mystery which is Christ in You

Even when God had a second Man who fully expressed Him, His eternal purpose was not yet **fully** realised; the mystery/purpose of God was not yet finished.

- **“The mystery of Christ”** was the first phase of His plan.
- That second Man was the last Adam and the beginning of a new creation of new men to replace the old fallen man.
- So, although Christ completely, perfectly and fully manifested God’s mystery/plan in a body of flesh, that was but the starting point.
- He was both the **consummation** of God’s mystery and also its **commencement**.

This explains two of the designations applied to Christ,

- **“The firstborn of every creature** (i.e., of all creation)” (Colossians 1:15); and,
- **“The beginning of the creation of God”** (Revelation 3:14).

Christ was thus but the first of a new creation. This new creation was to be characterised by **“Christ in you”**, i.e., by Christ incarnate in His Church just as God was incarnate in Christ.

To put it differently,

- In **“the mystery of godliness”**, God was manifest **in His Son**.
- In **“the mystery which is Christ in you”**, God is manifest **in His sons**.

This was the second stage of the mystery. Not now God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:19), God manifest in the flesh of just one Man, but God in a whole new creation.

Christ would thus be, **“the firstborn among many brethren”** (Romans 8:29). God would be walking in the flesh of His people (2 Corinthians 6:16).

But there is even more to **“the mystery which is Christ in you”**. It is in fact the gateway to a full understanding of the meaning of redemption.

How?

The Third Stage, the Hope of Glory

The answer to the foregoing question lies in the **full** name of the mystery just examined. “*Christ in you*” is only half the story. The full designation of this particular mystery is, “*Christ in you, the hope of glory*”.

What is the significance of that additional phrase?

Christ in You, the Hope of Glory

To understand and experience Christ in us, by the Spirit, is not an end in itself. It is but an opening to a full understanding and experiencing of the final goal of the plan of redemption, the restoration of our lost glory.

To see how this can be, let us briefly summarise the loss and recovery of that original glory.

- The first man was, “*the image and glory of God*” (1 Corinthians 11:7).
- When he sinned, he “*came short of the glory of God*” (Romans 3:23).
- Henceforth, the glory of man was no better than the flower of the grass (1 Peter 1:24).
- But even before the Fall, God already had a plan to redeem and restore that lost glory.
- In fact, the Lamb was slain from the very foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8).
- Christ’s death was not just to pay the price to redeem us from the penalty of sin and to bring forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 1:7). It was also to redeem our lost original image and glory.
- So, we now look forward to partaking of the glory that shall be revealed at Christ’s appearing and being crowned with glory (1 Peter 5:1,4).
- Furthermore, we shall not only appear with Him in glory (Colossians 3:4). We shall appear in ***His*** glory.
 - We are called to obtain the very glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:14).
 - This is why in 2 Thessalonians 1:10 it says that, when He shall appear, He shall be glorified ***in*** (not, “*by*”) His saints. In other words, His glory shall be seen in them.
- As a result, we shall once again be able to stand faultless in the Presence of the divine Glory, with joy and without fear (Ju 24).

No wonder Paul said we rejoice in hope of the very glory of God Himself (Romans 5:2)!

The Spirit of Wisdom & Revelation in the Full Knowledge of Him

As stated earlier, to understand the eternal purpose and plan/mystery of God, spiritual revelation is needed.

The revelation of the mystery of godliness, of the mystery of Christ and of Christ as the full manifestation of God in flesh, are essential to a full understanding of the plan to redeem the lost glory.

Why?

The answer lies in Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 1:17-18a.

- He prayed to the Father of glory for “*the spirit of wisdom and revelation*”.
- For what? For a full knowledge of Who Christ was, i.e., of the mystery of Christ as the fulness of God manifest in flesh.
- Why did he pray for such knowledge? So that the eyes of their understanding would be flooded with light.
- Enlightenment about what? To know the hope of their calling.

That ye May Know What Is the Hope of Your Calling

So, a revelation of the mystery of godliness, of Who Christ is, God fully manifest in the flesh of the Man Christ Jesus, will result in a revelation of the hope to which we have been called.

Why?

Because Christ Himself **is** the revelation of the hope of our calling!

- He not only **gives** us hope; He Himself is the embodiment of our hope (1 Timothy 1:1).

And what is that hope? The restoration of the lost glory.

- “**Christ in you**” is our hope of glory. That is God’s plan to restore man’s original glory lost at the Fall. (This is why Paul addressed his prayer to **the Father of glory**.)
- The plan, the mystery of God, did not end with the full manifestation of God in the flesh of Christ. That was but the first stage. The second stage, “**Christ in you**”, Christ fully manifest in **our** flesh, is the key to the realisation of the hope we have been called to.

(We find a similar theme in 1 Corinthians 2:7, “*we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom... ordained before the world unto our glory.*” In other words, the ultimate aim of God’s mystery, foreordained before time began, is to restore our lost glory.)

The Grand Finale: The Mystery of God shall be Finished

Before coming to the final outcome of the finishing of the mystery of God, let us resolve an apparent paradox.

The Seeming Contradiction: Is the Mystery Finished or to Be Finished?

Ephesians 3:11 speaks of “*the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus.*” (KJV “purposed” means “effected,” “carried into effect.”)

- In other words, God’s age-old purpose was realised, accomplished and carried out.

Yet Revelation 10:7 says, “*in the days of the voice of the seventh angel the mystery of God should be finished.*”

- In other words, at the time of writing of Revelation, the completion of the mystery of God was still future.

So, has the mystery of God, His eternal purpose, been fulfilled or not? How do we reconcile the ***future*** fulfilling of Revelation 10.7 with the ***past*** fulfilment of Ephesians 3.11?

Quite easily.

- A key part of the mystery of God is the mystery of godliness.
- The essence of the mystery of godliness is, “*God ... manifest in the flesh*”.
- Although this was certainly achieved, realised and executed in Christ, there was a wider fulfilment. Having been realised in Christ, it was then to be replicated in the Church.
- Just as in Christ “*dwellmeth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily*”, so Paul prayed that the Church, too, “*might be filled with all the fullness of God*” (Ephesians 3:19).
- How? By being filled with all the fulness of Christ (Ephesians 1:23).
- Just as all of God was poured into the physical body of Christ, so God’s plan was for all of Christ to be then poured into His spiritual Body, the Church.

So, the fulfilling/finishing of the mystery of God is not just God incarnate in the Man Christ Jesus. He was but the beginning of the new creation, the firstborn among many brethren. The full fulfilment of the mystery is not only God manifest in the flesh of Christ, but also Christ manifest in the flesh of His Church, a work which has been in progress since the beginning of the Church Age.

So, the mystery of God both has been fulfilled and is yet to be fulfilled.

Let us conclude by looking at the nature of the ultimate fulfilment of that work in progress.

Changed into His Image from Glory to Glory

From the time Christ began God’s new creation, the mystery of God has been working towards its final completion. Throughout the Church Ages, through “*the mystery of Christ in you*”, the Church has been progressively recovering the lost image and glory of God.

The three key aspects of this process are briefly summed up in 2 Corinthians 3:18.

- ***Firstly***, she is progressively being ***changed back into His image***. The ultimate goal is to bear the image of the Man of heaven (1 Corinthians 15:49).
- ***Secondly***, she is being ***changed from glory into glory***, the progressive outworking of “*the mystery which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*” (Colossians 1:27).
- ***Thirdly***, the change and glorification are achieved ***by the renewing of the Holy Ghost***. The Church is progressively transformed after God’s image as she puts on the new man, which is created to be like Him (Ephesians 4.24; Colossians 3.10-11).

So, the conclusion of this process will be the full redemption of what man lost at the Fall.

Now this process cannot continue indefinitely. There must come a time when the renewing and change is complete.

In other words, a time when the mystery of God is finished.

But when?

When Shall the Mystery of God Be Finished?

When does the Bible say the mystery of God shall be finished?

In the days of the sounding of the seventh angel (Revelation 10:7).

Who is that angel?

- It cannot be the seventh of the seven angels given seven trumpets to sound in Revelation 8:2, for the sixth is said to sound in Revelation 9:12, and the seventh in Revelation 11:15.
- It must, therefore, be the seventh of the seven angels to the seven churches of Revelation 2 and 3, the angel/messenger to the church of the Laodiceans.

So, the mystery/plan of God will be finished/fulfilled at the sounding of the message of the angel/messenger to this final, Laodicean, Church Age.

This accords well with one of the designations of Christ in His message to the church of the Laodiceans, "*the beginning of the creation of God*" (Revelation 3:14).

- The creation referred to is the *new* creation, not the *original* creation.
- The word "beginning" means "beginner" as well as "beginning".

Why is this designation significant?

Because Laodicea is the day in which He Who began that new creation will finish it.

In other words, this is the day in which the mystery of God shall be finished.

The Mystery of God Is Finished

What are the unspeakable implications of the finishing of the mystery of God? What do we have to look forward to?

In brief, the Church will become one with Christ and with the Word.

As Christ was God manifest in flesh, so shall end time believers be. Their very presence will bring a consciousness, an awareness, of the presence of Christ (cp Acts 4:13).

- **Just as** the body of Christ was a tabernacle/temple filled with all of God, **so also** the end time Church shall be a perfected temple filled with the entire Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:20-22).
- **Just as** all the fulness of God dwelt in the physical body of Christ, **so also** all the fulness of Christ shall dwell in His spiritual body, the Church (Ephesians 1:23).
- **Just as** when men saw Christ, they saw God (John 1:18), **so also** to see the Church will be to see the invisible God (Cp 1 John 4:12).
- **Just as** when men saw Christ, they saw the Father (John 12:45), **so also** when they see the end time Church, they will see Christ (John 12:23-24).

Similarly, just as Christ was the Word, (i.e., God, John 1:1) made flesh, so also believers shall be living epistles (2 Corinthians 3:1-3).

- To see a believer living by the Word will be to behold the Word in flesh, to read an illustrated Bible (cp 1 Peter 3:1-2).
- The end time bride will not just take in and give out the honey of the Word (Song of Songs 4:11). She will herself **become** the Word. (See Song of Songs 5:1. The honey which the bridegroom partakes of is found in his garden. That garden is a symbol of his bride (4:12). So, the bridegroom is nourished by the Word in His bride.)

To sum up,

- The end time true Church will not just **have** the full revelation of Christ, she will **be** the full revelation of Christ.
- The end time true Church will not just **have** the full revelation of the Word, she will **be** the full revelation of the Word.

When the Church is one with Christ and one with the Word, then, indeed, shall the mystery of God be finished.

- His bride shall be resplendent with the glory of God (Revelation 21:11).
- Out of her, the perfection of beauty, God shall shine (Psalm 50:2).

This is the day of God manifest in the flesh of the believer.

This is the day of the finishing of the mystery of God.

Hallelujah!

QUOTATIONS OF WILLIAM BRANHAM

(The Summary, headings, italicised Scripture references & emboldening are my own.)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mystery Hidden in God from the Beginning

The age-old cry for a God with skin on

- I told this little story, that, one night it come up a storm, and mother said to Junior, said, "Now, you go on upstairs, son, and go to bed." "Mama, I'm scared," he said. "Ain't nothing going to hurt you. Go on up and go to bed." Little junior laid up there, and the lightning flashing around the windows. And the little fellow got so nervous, he'd stick his head under the cover, and he could still see the lightning flash on the windows, and hear the thunder roar. So he said, "Mama!" And she said, "What do you want, junior?" Said, "Come up here and sleep with me." So she come up the steps, like any good, loyal mother would. And she came up, and she took little junior in her arms. And she said, "Junior, mother wishes to speak to you just a moment." Said, "All right, mama." Said, "Now you must bear this in mind. We go to church, constantly. We read the Bible. We pray. We are a Christian family. We believe in God." And said, "We believe that, in storms and whatever goes on, God is our protection." He said, "Mama, I believe every bit of that. But," said, "when that lightning is so close," he said, "**I want a God with skin on It.**" So, I think, not only junior, but all of us feel that way. When we get together, when we pray one for the other, God with skin on It.

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 137-142

The answer to that cry lies in a mystery hidden from before the beginning of the world

- Now, **God's secret mystery He had before the world began** (Eph 3.9)...
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 102

In the beginning God was an eternal Spirit dwelling in Heaven

- God, what we know as God, **the great Spirit that was eternal** (Jn 4.24; Heb 9.14), never did begin, never did end, He was there.
"God Is His Own Interpreter" (64-0205), par 9
- Now, He can't be just like the wind over the earth, because **He is a Being**. He just isn't a myth. **He's a Being. He dwells**. He even dwells in a house (Jn 14.2). **He dwells in a place called Heaven** (Ps 113.5).
"Things That Are To Be" (65-1205), par 37-38

That hidden mystery before the world began was His purpose to express Himself, to reveal all His attributes

- Now, **God's secret mystery, He had before the world began**. Now, back in the back part of God's mind, there was **something that He was trying and was going to achieve**, and He had a motive in doing it, in order **to let Himself be expressed**. Because, first, there wasn't even a moon, star, atom, molecule, or anything. He was God. But He exactly wasn't God at that time, because God is an "object of worship," and there wasn't nothing to worship Him. So, in His great mind, **He wanted these attributes to be expressed**. And in Him was love; in Him was to be Father; in Him was to be Son; in Him was to be a Saviour; in Him was to be a Healer. And all these great attributes that we see already expressed, they were in God...

63-0728 - Christ Is The Mystery Of God Revealed, par 102-103

That Purpose/Mystery Has Been Unfolding Through the Ages

Initially that expression was made visible in human bodily form, in the Logos, the Son of God

- Now, here is what happened... The Logos, and this great Fountain, this great Fountain of Spirit which had no beginning or no end; this great Spirit began to form, in the creation, and the Logos (Jn 1.1) that went out from It **was the Son of God. It was the only visible form that the Spirit had. And It was a theophany, which means a body, and the body was like a man.** Moses saw It when It passed by the rock (Ex 33.19-23). And he looked at It, said, "It looked like the hind part of a man" (Cp Ezk 1.26).

"Hebrews Chapter 1" (57-0821), par 129-130

The mystery was also partly expressed/foreshadowed in types & Old Testament believers

- God, all ages, has had skin on It.** He, God, has been *hidden behind the veil.*
"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 132
- He has showed or revealed it in every type that's in the Bible... **The entire Bible is an expression of one goal that God had, one purpose He wanted to achieve...** all **the acts of the believers in the Bible have been in type and expressing what God's great goal is.**

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 107

But one day the mystery was revealed in its fulness in the Man Christ Jesus; the Son was not now just veiled in human form but, like us, in flesh

- the entire Bible is **the revelation of God's mystery in Christ** (Eph 3.4, 11).
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 107
- That Son, that Logos, became flesh, because we were put in flesh. And the theophany, **the Logos, became flesh** (Jn 1.14), here among us... **that entire Fountain dwelt in Him** (Col 2.9). Oh, do you see it? There It is.

"Hebrews Chapter 1" (57-0821), par 130

But that was not the end; the purpose/mystery has been unfolding through the ages, right down to the present day

- God had **a purpose** and **a hidden mystery.** He had in His mind before the world ever began and how that **it's unfolded itself right down to this present hour** that we're living. See? Then you will understand clearly then on, I believe, what is being done.

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 105

The full, final unveiling of the divine purpose/mystery is not until the last days

- now in this last day He has revealed it** and shows it (i.e., Rev 10.7). And God's help, we'll see it right here: what the Lord has had in His mind all along and has expressed it.
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 107
- ...never giving His secret in full, waiting for to make it known in the last days**, as He promised, waiting for it to be fully comprehended before He could express it... because the Bible's written in mysteries; Jesus thanked the Father for it, that It was wrote in mysteries (Mt 11.25).
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 203

2.

THE MYSTERY FORESHADOWED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Christ is the principal theme of the Bible; He is in all the OT Scriptures

- **He is the principal theme of the entire Bible.** If you read the Bible and don't see Christ in every verse of It, go back and read It again. See? **If you can't see Christ in every verse of the Bible**, then you read It again, because you've missed something. **The Bible is Christ. He is the Word.** When you read, "In the beginning God created..." (Gen 1.1; Jn 1.1-3) there's Christ. See? From that to the "Amen" in Revelations (Rev 22.21; 3.14) is **every Word testifying of Jesus Christ.**

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 122

- The Bible is a prophetic Book; It's a historical Book; It's a Book of love. It's a Book of songs; It's a Book of Life, **and in there you find Christ. He was in the Prophets; He was in the Psalms; He was in the history; and He also in the Bible is the things that is to come.**

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 129

In fact, He is all the Scriptures

- He **was** the history, and He **is** the Prophet; He **is** the Psalms; **He is everything.**

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 130

God Behind an Animal Skin Veil

The mystery of God veiled in flesh was foreshadowed in the OT by the Glory of God veiled behind the inanimate badger skins of the Tabernacle

- in the Old Testament... the old badger skins, what did it do? **It hid the Glory of God from the people** (Ex 25.2, 5; 26.14). The badger skins; even people couldn't see It, because it was a skin that held It. **The Glory of God was behind the skin.**

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 148

God Behind a Human Skin Veil

More particularly, it was foreshadowed by Christ behind the skin of living men

- Oh, **the whole Old Testament it is just the lives portraying Jesus.**
"Darkest Hour, Then Jesus Comes Along" (55-1114), par 15

The OT prophets not only spoke of Christ, they lived Him; their very lives reflected/revealed/expressed Him

- He **was** the prophets; He was in them (1 P 1.11).
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 131
- **It was Christ in Noah. It was Christ in Moses. It's always the Spirit of Christ**
"Turn On The Light" (64-0125), par 29
- Look at the days of Joseph the prophet, how that **Jesus was perfectly identified in Joseph.** He was born, loved of his father, hated of his brethren without a cause. He loved his brothers. But they were self-starched Pharisees-like, and they had nothing to do with him, and hated him because he saw visions and so forth (Gen 37.5-11, 19-20)... that **God displayed His characteristic in Joseph.**
"Identified Christ Of All Ages" (64-0401), par 55-56
- **He was in David**, when David was rejected from his own people of being king, and went up on the hill, looked back over the Mount of Olives as he was being excommunicated from his own people: went up the hill, looked back over the city and wept (2 Sam 15.30). Eight hundred years from there the Son of David set on the same hill weeping, because

He was rejected in His own city (Lk 19.41-44)... See, it's Christ in every generation. **That was Christ in David.**

"Christ is Identified the Same in All Generations" (64-0415), par 104

But they only reflected/ revealed/expressed Him in part

- Elijah was a **portion of God**. That was Christ in Elijah...
"Jesus Came and Called" (64-0213), par 53

Christ partially revealed in the flesh of His prophets was only the beginning of the gradual unfolding of God's hidden purpose/mystery to express Himself

- Notice now, down through the ages, He's been gradually letting this out, **slowly unfolding the mystery through the prophets and through the types... and expressing Himself**... All those things typed Him (just in type), but yet the mystery was hid. Them men didn't know what they were doing (1 P 1.11-12). They only knew that they were led by the Spirit to do something. Now, **holding it back in the last days for the great revelation – but expressing it. Expressing Himself in Moses, and David, and Joseph, and Elijah and on down through**. We could take each one of those prophets and bring their lives out and show it expressed Jesus Christ perfectly, exactly, **yet never giving His secret in full, waiting for to make it known in the last days**, as He promised, waiting for it to be fully comprehended before He could express it... because the Bible's written in mysteries; Jesus thanked the Father for it, that It was wrote in mysteries (Mt 11.25).

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 191, 203

3.

THE ESSENCE OF THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Two Key Elements of the Mystery of God

The mystery of God is not one single mystery but several

- Now, **what is "the mystery of God," one of them?** ...
62-1230E - Is This The Sign Of The End, Sir?, par 295

One of them is God in the flesh of Christ

- Now, **what is "the mystery of God,"** one of them? Paul said, in First Timothy 3, I believe it was, said, **"Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: for God was manifested in the flesh** (we handled Him, seen Him), received up into Glory, witnessed by Angels, vindicated here on earth." God was!

62-1230E - Is This The Sign Of The End, Sir?, par 295

Another is God in you

- **What is it, "The mystery of God"?** **"God in you, the hope of Glory,"** shining forth, the baptism of the Holy Spirit!
55-0109E - Beginning And Ending Of The Gentile Dispensation, par 145

God's Threefold Purpose

The essence of the Mystery of God is the revelation of His threefold purpose

- I'm trying to bring you **the threefold revelation, or mystery of God.**
63-0728 - Christ Is The Mystery Of God Revealed, par 551

The threefold purpose in summary

- Now, **what's the threefold purpose?**
 - **Manifest Hissself in Jesus Christ,**
 - to **come into the Body** (i.e., the Church, the Body of Christ) **by Jesus Christ to have the pre-eminence;**
 - to **what? Restore back Eden, bring back that which lost.** That was the only thing out of order. All the rest of His things was in order.

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 172

4.

THE THREEFOLD PURPOSE IN DETAIL

The 1st Phase

The Mystery of Godliness; The Mystery of Christ God Fully Manifest in the Flesh/Body of Christ

God Manifest in Flesh in Christ is the Revelation of God's Purpose & Hidden Mystery;
Christ Himself is the Mystery of God Revealed

- I want us title this: ***Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed. Christ being the mystery of God revealed!*** ... He has showed or revealed it (i.e., His purpose and hidden mystery) in every type that's in the Bible. Therefore, ***the entire Bible is the revelation of God's mystery in Christ. Hum! The entire Bible is an expression of one goal that God had, one purpose He wanted to achieve in the entire Bible.*** And ***all the acts of the believers in the Bible has been in type, an expressing what God's great goal is,*** and now in this last day He has revealed it and shows it. And God's help, we'll see it right here this morning, ***what the Lord has had in His mind all along,*** and has expressed it.

63-0728 - Christ Is The Mystery Of God Revealed, par 101,107

The Original Purpose

God's original purpose was to reveal/express His full attributes to the people

- God, in ***His great mystery secret that He had before the world began***... The first thing was that ***God wanted to reveal Himself to the people.*** He couldn't do it as a great Jehovah God Who covered all space, time, and eternity. He could not. He's too great to ever be revealed to people, because it would be too mysterious...

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 140-143

Even after the Fall brought separation, that purpose did not change

- Now, He could do that in Adam and Eve, but sin separated them, ***so now there had to be some way to get it back again.*** Oh, my. Oh, this is rich to me, just to even think of it! See? ***See what God's purpose was?*** Now, why didn't He just keep Adam and Eve like that? Then ***He would have never been able to express His Fullness, His full attribute,*** because... He could been a Father there; that's true, but also He's a Saviour... and He had to express that...

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 145

Christ in the OT Prophets

God began to unfold His mystery by revealing Christ in the prophets

- **Jesus was the Fullness of all those prophets. Every one of them only manifested Him;** that's all. All the way from Joseph, and thirty pieces of silver, everywhere he portrayed Christ. So did Moses.

“Jesus Came and Called” (64-0213), par 54

Christ in a Body of Flesh

Then to express Himself & identify Himself with man, God came down to earth & revealed Himself in flesh in the Man Christ Jesus

- He was God. **God was in Christ.** He was the Emmanuel, Jehovah anointed, walking here on earth, living among men. First Timothy 3:16: "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness: for God was manifested in the flesh, seen of angels, preached on in the world, believed on in the world, received up into glory": **God, Himself. So now, Jesus was God's manifestation of His own Being on earth, unfolding Himself into a human being**

54-0402 – Blind Bartimaeus, par 32

- And **the only way that He could express it was to become a Son of man.** That's the reason Jesus kept saying, "The Son of man." See, they didn't know what He was talking about, many of them. But now you get it? **He wanted to express Himself... to express Himself, identify Himself with human beings, to reveal Himself in Christ** (Jn 1.14, 18; 2 Cor 5.19).

“Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed” (63-0728), par 143

As a Man with a body, we could see, fellowship with, talk to, touch, feel & handle Him

- **Christ was God, made so that men could feel Him and touch Him, and—and fellowship with Him.**

57-0915M – Hebrews, Chapter Six #3, par 525

- He was the Father in the beginning that hung over the wilderness in the flame of fire, the burning bush... Fatherhood, God, just as I got through saying, condescending, coming down; that was the highest order. The Spirit, the Agapao, the Zoe, the Life of God Himself made in the form of a Pillar of Fire. And that same One after being in the Fatherhood, became the Son, and **the Spirit that was in the burning bush was in the Man Christ... It dropped down from Supernatural into something tangible that could be touched, a body...**

“The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit” (58-0928), par 90-97

- Now, notice. Father, then He was the Father, way above us. Couldn't even get around where He was at. Then **He became Son, that we could touch Him, feel Him. He was a Man.**

61-0120 – The Water Baptism, par 147

- Jesus said, "No man has **seen** God at any time, but the only begotten of the Father has declared Him." (Jn 1.18). In other words, God was identified. **The Person of God was identified in the Body, of the Lord Jesus Christ**, so He was the expressed image of God (2 Cor 4.4; Col 1.15, 19; Heb 1.3). Or, God expressing Himself through an image, through an image: Man. God expressed Himself to us... **He was God Himself, identifying Himself, so we could feel Him.** First Timothy 3.16, "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness, for God was manifested (or made known) in the flesh." Isn't that wonderful? God! And **we could never understand God as He moved through a Pillar of Fire**, and so forth, as He did. **But we understood Him when He became one of us, when He became Man. Then He could talk to us, and we could feel Him, handle Him, touch Him.** And as the Scripture plainly says that **"we have handled God," touched Him with our hands** (Lk 24.39; Jn 20.27; 1 Jn 1.1).

“Shalom” (64-0112), par 7-8

- Elohim was made flesh, and **we handled Him.** Elohim veiled in human flesh, the great Jehovah that covered all space, time, and everywhere, was made man. **We handled Him:** Elohim.

"The Unveiling Of God" (64-0614), par 79

God manifest in the flesh of Christ was the revelation of Who God is

- Now, but then that same God that was the Pillar of Fire, **He became flesh**, through His Son, and **dwelt in a body called the Lord Jesus Christ.** The Bible said, "In Him dwells the fulness of the Godhead bodily." And Jesus said in...Well, in 1st Timothy 3:16, "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness." And if they could call it great, why, what would we do, see? **"Great is the mystery of God, for God was manifested in the flesh,** and seen of angels, and received up into Glory," and so forth. Now, and He said in Saint John 14, to Thomas, **"When you have seen Me, you have seen the Father.** And why sayest thou, 'Show us the Father' (v 9)?" The Bible said, that, **"God was in Christ,** reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Cor 5.19).

61-0425B - The Godhead Explained, par 130

- The seven and last one of these seals, when they're opened, it's found in Revelation the 10th chapter, there was a mighty Angel (which was Christ) came down and put one foot on the land and one on the sea, and raised up His hand and says, "The day is finished. Time is run out. It's all over. Time shall be no more." And He said, "At the sounding of the...**at this time, the mystery of God should be finished.** **Who God is and how He was made manifest;** how when that seal was opened, how we begin to understand now how that He was the Son of God, **He was God Himself made flesh; and the revelation of Who He is**

61-0618 - Revelation, Chapter Five #2, par 204-205

- Now, **what is "the mystery of God," one of them?** Paul said, in First Timothy 3, I believe it was, said, "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: for **God was manifested in the flesh** (we handled Him, seen Him) (1 Jn 1.1), received up into Glory, witnessed by Angels, vindicated here on earth." God was! **Sure, it's a great mystery, but it's all solved. Not "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost," three Gods; but, one God in three offices.** The Fatherhood, under Moses; the Sonship, under Christ; the Holy Ghost, under this dispensation. Three dispensations of the same God; not three Gods. The mystery is finished now. The Bible said it should be.

62-1230E - Is This The Sign Of The End, Sir? par 295

That Body was the Dwelling-Place of God

In that body was all the fulness of the Godhead

- Now, **God gave Christ the Spirit without measure** (Jn 3.34). Is that right? **The Fullness of God was in Christ** (Col 2.9). He was God Emmanuel. We know that. There's no doubt in our minds of that... **in Christ was the Fullness of God.** We have it by measure (Ro 12.6; Eph 4.7). He had it without measure, the Bible says. See? **Without measure**, no way, He's just unlimited.

"India Trip Report" (57-0126B), par E-58

- The Bible said, that, Jesus, **"in Him dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily."**

57-0901E – Hebrews, Chapter Four, par 131

- Jesus was the Fullness of God's Word, for **He was the Fullness of the Godhead bodily, and in Him dwelt the Fullness of God.** God lived in Jesus Christ... not Jew nor Gentile, but God.

"Why Little Bethlehem" (58-1228), par 129

- **all the Godhead bodily was in Him.**

"Unveiling of God" (64-0614M), par 187

- God, **all the Fullness, all the Godhead bodily** was in this Person, Jesus Christ. He was God and God alone, not a third person, or a second person, or a first person; but **the Person, God veiled in human flesh**. First Timothy 3:16: "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness; for G-o-d, Elohim..." "Without controversy great is the mystery of Elohim; for **Elohim was made flesh...**" Elohim veiled in human flesh, the great Jehovah that covered all space, time, and everywhere, was made man... "In the beginning Elohim... And **Elohim was made flesh**, dwelled among us" (Jn 1:14, 18)... **All that God was, He emptied Himself** ("kenos") **and came into Christ** (i.e. Phil 2:7; KJV "made himself of no reputation" = Greek 'kenoo', which literally = "emptied himself") ...

"The Unveiling Of God" (64-0614), par 78-79, 238

- So you see, God made in Mary both egg and germ... He created both in the womb of Mary. And **that Man was not nothing but God Himself made flesh and dwelled among us**, Emmanuel (Mt 1:23), not just a fine man, a prophet... He was All in all. But above all that, **He was God Himself...**

"The Seed Shall Not Be Heir With The Shuck" (65-0429B), par, 100

- I've always preached that **He was Deity**, not just a man; **He was God manifested in the flesh, God**, the Attribute of God of love, the great Attributes that come down displayed here on earth of God. Jesus was God's love... **He was the Fullness of the Godhead bodily. What God was, He manifested through that body.**

"The Rapture" (65-1204), par 160-161

It was the fleshly Tabernacle/Dwelling Place of God

- God, Jehovah, God overshadowed a little virgin and brought forth the virgin born Son of God. And **that was a Tabernacle or the dwelling place of Jehovah Himself. Jehovah walked in a tabernacle of flesh...**

"Raising Jairus Daughter" (56-0731), par E-23

- **... the corporal body called Jesus, which was His dwelling place. The body is a tabernacle. God was tabernacling here on earth... In the body, Christ** (Jn 1:14; KJV "dwelt" = "tabernacled", "pitched His tent").

"India Trip Report" (57-0126B), par E-58

- **Christ, the Lord Jesus, was the body that God dwelt in, "God was made flesh and Jesus was a house that God lived in.** The Bible said that—that, First Timothy 3:16, "Without controversy," (that's, "argument") "great is the mystery of godliness. For God was manifested in the flesh, seen of Angels, received on...preached, believed on, and received up into Glory." God was. The Bible said, "His Name shall be called Emmanuel, which is by interpretation, 'God with us.'"

57-0901E – Hebrews, Chapter Four, par 131

- **dwelt among us.**" First Timothy 3:16, "Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness, for God was **manifested in flesh.**" The great Jehovah came down and was made tangible, by **living in the body of His Own Son**, declaring and reconciling the world to Himself...Christ was nothing short of God, and—and God was nothing short of Christ.

57-0915M – Hebrews, Chapter Six #3, par 525-526

- The Father was **Almighty Jehovah God dwelling in a Tabernacle called Jesus Christ**, which was the anointed Son of God. Jesus was a Man; God is a Spirit. And no man has seen God at any time, but the only begotten of the Father has declared Him (Jn 1:18). His Personality, His Being, His Deity, whatever He was, He was God. He was nothing less or nothing more than God. Yet, He was a man. **He was a man, a house that God dwelt in. That's right. He was God's dwelling place.**

"Q&As on Hebrews #2" (57-1002), par 439

- "Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in houses that's made with hands," and another place over in Isaiah (Isa 66.1; Acts 7.48). He said, "**A body has Thou prepared Me;**" see, "sacrifice and offerings, and buildings, and so forth (Thou wouldest not), but **a body has Thou prepared Me.**" (Heb 10.5-6). Well, we realize that he was speaking then of **the body where God tabernacled, in Christ** (Jn 2.21).

"What House Will You Build Me" (65-1121), par 21

- Now, after He dwelt in the Pillar of Fire, then **came down and made Hissself a body, brought Hissself down a tent of human flesh and dwelt in, among us; God dwelling.** First Timothy 3:16: "Without controversy," Paul speaking, "great is the mystery of godliness: for God was **manifested in the flesh**, seen of..."

61-0120 – The Water Baptism, par 146

God was hidden in that Tabernacle, behind the veil of Christ's flesh

- God came down, **veiled** in flesh (Jn 1.14; Heb 10.20). To show Himself. **He had to hide, because we couldn't see Him** (Ex 33.20; Jn 1.18; 1 Tim 6.16; 1 Jn 4.12). **And He hid behind the veil. And the veil was who? Jesus.** "Not Me that doeth the works, My Father," said Jesus. "My Father dwelleth in Me" (Jn 14.10). "The Father worketh, and I worketh hitherto" (Jn 5.17). **Here He is as the veiled One, walking in the flesh**, God, Emmanuel, God with us (Mt 1.23). "God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Cor 5.19).

"Hebrews Chapter 6 Part 3" (57-0915M), par 608

The 2nd Phase

The Mystery which is Christ in You

The Mystery Reproduced, Christ Fully Manifest in the Flesh/Body of His Church

The 2nd Phase of God's Unfolding Mystery:

To Express Himself Through Christ in His Church, His Bride, His Body, a People in Whom He Has the Preeminence

- Secondly: **to have the preeminence in His Body of believers**, that is, His Bride, **that He might live in people...** God's great purpose... **First, to reveal Himself in Christ, the fullness of the Godhead bodily** (Col 1.19; 2.9; 1 Tim 3.16), and **then to bring that fullness of Godhead bodily into a people that He could have the preeminences** (Col 1.18), the oversight, the leading...

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 144, 146

- First, to express Hissself completely: God in Christ. Second, **to have the preeminences by this in His Church** (which is His Body, Bride) (Col 1.18) to... **have the preeminence to express Himself through them.**

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 154-155

- Next--secondly, **the manifested Christ in you**, the hope of glory. **That great manifested God in Christ, now Christ manifested in you...** What was once God's great secret, great mysterious secret in His mind, is now put in the hearts of the believer, that is the Body of Christ. What was God's once great secret in His mind before the foundation of the world is now made manifest. Think of it! ...

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 394-395

The Church, the Tabernacle, the Dwelling Place of God

Just as the physical body of the Man Christ Jesus was the Tabernacle, the House, the Dwelling Place of God, so now is His mystical Body, the Church

- **What is the Tabernacle now? A Body, God tabernacling in a Body...** God was made flesh and dwelt among us, in the form of Jesus Christ, His Son, His creation. Then that Son gave His life, and the Blood cell of God was broken, that the Life might come out of the Blood, to us... The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us, changes our nature, by sending upon us the Holy Spirit; we become into the divine nature of God (2 P 1.3-4); then **we become a dwelling place for God**. Jesus said, "At that day you'll know that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me; I in you, and you in Me." See?

"The Stature of a Perfect Man" (62-1014M), par 69-74

- **God dwells in the stature of a man, reflecting Himself into that being.** Perfect worship! **God in us, being His Tabernacle...** So, you see, **we're all trying to get to this dwelling place, Tabernacle of the living God** (2 Cor 6.16)... He's bringing His people up. Then Peter here (2 P 1.5-7) says, first, seven things: faith, virtue, (see, come up), knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly love, add brotherly kindness, and then the love of God; the Holy Ghost, Christ in the person of the Holy Ghost, comes upon you, in the true baptism of the Holy Ghost, and you got all these virtues sealed in you. **Then, God lives in a Tabernacle, called the Building, the living Tabernacle of the living God's dwelling place** (1 Cor 3.16-17; 6.19)... Now, **that is the house that God dwells in**, not a building with a big bell on top of it and a high steeple, but, **"a body has Thou prepared Me (Heb 10.5)," a body that God can dwell in, God can walk in, God can see in, God can talk in, God can work in**, living instrumentality of God. **God walking on two feet in you.** Glory. "The footsteps of the righteous is ordered of God," **God walking in you**, for ye are written epistles, read of all men (2 Cor. 3.1-3). And if the Life that's in Christ be in you, you'll bear the Life that Christ bore.

"The Stature of a Perfect Man" (62-1014M), par 77, 84, 341, 346

Just as in the OT God was veiled behind animal skin, so now He is veiled/hidden behind the skin of His Church

- **God has always had skin on Him.** When Moses seen Him, He had skin on Him, look like a Man (Ex 33.22-23). When God was behind the curtains, He had skin on Him. And **God, in His Church, is veiled in His Church with skin on It.** He is still the same God! ... **God is veiled in His Church, in skin, skin on It... God, all ages, has had skin on It. He, God, has been hidden behind the veil.**

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 143-144

- in the Old Testament... the old badger skins, what did it do? **It hid the Glory of God from the people** (Ex 25.2, 5; 26.14)... people couldn't see It, because it was a skin that held It. **The Glory of God was behind the skin. And now the Glory of God is behind your skin...** It's inside the veil... What was on the inside of that skin back there, the old badger skins? Which, "There was no beauty we should desire It". And when It was made flesh and dwelt among us, It was still no beauty we should desire It (Isa 53.2). And now the same thing is today. There's nothing in a man or a woman, that can be desired. **It's what's in behind there** (2 Cor 4.7). That's what it is. "Well," you say, "that fellow, I know he used to be a drunkard. He used to do this." I don't care what he used to do. **What's hidden behind that skin? What is behind there, that's what counts.** That's what, the people is blinded. The skin blinds the people. They say, "I remember when that woman used to..." I know what she used to, but what about now? See? Them skins, that was once on the badger, but now it's hiding the Glory of God, got It housed behind it. It was on an animal, but now it's housing the Glory of God. **And so can your skin be changed, today, to be made a housing place for God, God dwelling in humanity** (Eph 2.20-22; Heb 3.6).

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 148-154

The Church, the Fulness of Christ

Christ not only died to give His life for us, but to give His life to us

- as **He gave His life for us, then His Spirit comes back upon us.** Jesus said, "At that day you'll know that I'm in the Father, the Father in Me, **I in you**, and you in Me." (Jn 14.20)...

"The Seed Shall Not Be Heir With The Shuck" (65-0429B), par 32

When He poured out His Spirit on the Church, He poured out Himself

- All that God was, He poured into Christ; **all Christ was is poured into the Church** (Eph 1.23), the believers. Not denomination!
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 162
- **God, in man, has emptied Himself.** Joel 2.28, we find out He said, "I will pour out in the last days My Spirit" (cp Acts 2.17-18; 33). Now, if you notice the word there, Greek word... when It said here (i.e. in Phil 2.7) that **He emptied Himself or poured out** (KJV = "made himself of no reputation," in Greek literally = "emptied himself"). Now, we'd think like this, that He "vomit up," the English word of "emptied or poured out from Him, something went out of Him that was different from Him." But the word "Kenos," in the Greek, does not mean that He "vomit up" ... He changed Himself; **He "poured Himself into,"** (Amen!), into another mask, into another form; **not another person** went out of Him called the Holy Spirit, **but It was He Himself.** You get it? **He Himself poured Himself into the people: Christ in you.** How beautiful, how wonderful to think, **God pouring Himself into the human being, into the believer:** pour out.

"The Unveiling of God" (64-0614), par 74, 77-78

Just as all the fulness of God was poured into the body of the Man Christ Jesus, so all the fulness of Christ was poured into men, into His Church, which is His Body

- Look. **All that God was, He poured into Christ.** Do you believe that? "In Him dwelt the Fulness of the Godhead bodily." Do you believe that? 'Cause He was God. He was the Son of God, but yet He was God. God changed His cast from a Spirit, and stretched His tent, and begin...**He become us. He become us, that we, through His grace, might become Him.** Amen. Brother, surely they get that. See? ...
First Timothy 3:16: "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness, for God was manifest in the flesh, and believed on in the world, and—and is gone...received up into glory." God made manifest... God was in Christ reconciling the world to Him. So **all that God was, He poured into Jesus; and all that Jesus was, He poured into the Church.**

61-0414 - Be Not Afraid, It Is I, par 69-70

- In them days, it was God in a Man, His Son, Jesus Christ... Not just a prophet, not just an ordinary man, ordinary human. It was God in Christ; God in a Man; **the fullness of the Godhead, bodily in a Man** (Col. 2.9). **God in a Man! Now it's God in men, the fullness of God in the Godhead, bodily in His entire Church,** manifesting Himself (Eph 1.23; 3.19), fulfilling His Word.

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 130-131

- God, expressed in Jesus Christ, Who was both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Col 2.9). **Now, the complete fullness of the Godhead bodily dwells in His Church,** the preeminences.

"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 160-161

That fulness was not poured into any one individual, but into the entire Body

- May we say it like this. **All that God was, He poured into Christ,** because He

emptied Himself and poured It into Christ. **“And Christ was the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”** All that Jehovah was, He poured into Christ. And **all that Christ was, He poured into the Church; not into one individual, but into the entire Body.** There, where we come together in unity, we have Power. **All that God was, was in Christ; and all that Christ was, is in you.** “For God was made flesh, and dwelled among us.”

59-1217 - What Was The Holy Ghost Given For? par 20

- Jesus was the Son of God, created Son of God. God overshadowed Mary, and created a Blood cell in her that brought forth the Son, Christ Jesus. And God came down and dwelt in Him; **in Him was the fulness of the Godhead bodily.** First Timothy 3:16 said, “Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: for God was manifested in the flesh, seen of Angels (and so forth) received up into heaven.” Oh, God...Not a prophet, God made flesh and dwelled among us. There He was, Emmanuel. The Holy Spirit called Him Emmanuel, “God with us.” **And now it’s God in us, the same Spirit. We receive It by portion, measure; He received it without portion or measure. In Him was the fulness of God. All that God was He poured into Christ, and all Christ was poured over the Church.** Amen. “That day you’ll know that I’m in the Father, the Father in Me, and I in you, and you in Me.” Oh, my, when it comes that day. Now, we’re working on, got orders—just keep moving.

60-0608 - Having Conferences, par 48

To See the Church is to See Christ/God

Christ indwelling believers makes them a full revelation of Himself

- **Christ in the Bible, makes the Bible a complete revelation of Christ. Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing** (Eph 1.23). See what God's trying to do?

“Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed” (63-0728), par 233

The only way the world will ever see God today is in His Church, in the born-again believer

- **God is in man. And He's identifying Himself today in His church. In the born-again Christian, God identifies Himself**, that He remains God. And **the outside world will only know God as they see God in you and I** (Jn 12.20-24). That's **the only way that they'll know God, is when we are written epistles, epistle of the Scripture, we are read of all men.**

“Shalom” (64-0112), par 9

The 3rd Phase

The Mystery Fulfilled

The Ultimate Objective Achieved; The Plan of Redemption Fully Accomplished; Full Restoration of All Lost at the Fall; Restoration of the Original Eden

Redemption Planned Even Before the Fall

When Adam lost his original inheritance at the Fall, its title deed reverted to the original Owner

- When we lost it at the garden of Eden, through Adam, **it went back to the original Owner.**
“Revelation, Chapter Five #2” (61-0618), par 159
- the forfeited title deed **is now in the hands of the original Owner**, Almighty God (Rev 5.1). The title deed to the earth, and to Eternal Life, when Adam forfeited it...
“The Breach” (63-0317E), par 116

But God had a plan to redeem & fully restore all the lost inheritance

- Now, Adam... when he first sinned, **God had a way of redemption for him... to come into His Presence again** (cp Job 19.25).
"God's servant Job" (55-0223), par E-19
- **He will not rest until He's done the full price of redemption to redeem you** (cp Ru 3.18), **everything that you ever lost, that everything that you were.**
"The Kinsman Redeemer" (60-1002), par 159
- **To redeem what? The fallen condition and the fallen inheritance of a fallen race of people.** A Lamb comes back to redeem, **like ours was at the beginning**, to redeem us... Anything that's redeemed is something that's been lost. **It's something that's been lost and then it's been brought back again. What does He bring back to us**, this Lamb? **Everything we had at the beginning.**
"Revelation Chapter 5 Part 2" (61-0618), par 91-92
- **everything that Adam had and everything that he lost, Christ redeems back...**
"The Breach" (63-0317E), para 140

Restoration of the Lost Fellowship, the Lost Kingdom, the Lost Glory & the Lost Body

Through His death on the Cross, we are restored to fellowship as at the beginning

- Now when we lay our hands by faith upon that trembling Lamb of God, feel His flesh quivering and shaking for us, and our hands become bathed with His Blood, and our souls, the Life that was in Him wasn't just a mere man, neither was It an animal, It was God, so **that Life comes back upon the sanctified one**, and becomes a son or a daughter, an offspring of God, see, **the Life of God**. And we are sons and daughters of God through the breaking of that Blood Cell, Jesus Christ.
Now, **what is it then? God is back in His people, fellowshipping like He did in the garden of Eden**. See? ... Isn't it beautiful? You, see?
61-0120 - The Water Baptism, par 147-149
- He paid the price and **redeemed us back into the fellowship of the Father**. Oh, what a Saviour! Words couldn't express it.
"Hebrews Chapter 2, Pt 2" (57-0825E), par 179

The restoration of the lost kingdom, Eden, will enable God to fellowship once again with His people & to express all His attributes

- And thirdly, **to restore the Kingdom to its rightly position** that fell by sin by the first Adam, **back to where He walked in the cool of the evening with His people, talked with them, fellowshipped with them** (Gen 3.8). And now sin and death had **separated them from His Presence and His entire expression... Before the foundation of the world to express all of His attributes, what He was.**
"Christ Is the Mystery of God Revealed" (63-0728), par 156-157

To enable that full fellowship, during the Church Ages there has been a progressive recovery of the lost Glory of God, coming ever closer to the full original Glory

- Paul said here, **"Changing from Glory to Glory"** (2 Cor 3.18). You see, **finally, It comes till It's back to Its original Glory** (1 Cor 11.7; 2 Th 2.14; Col 3.4; Rev 21.11). It's just like a seed of a morning glory. The seed of a flower, it falls into the ground. The seed of corn falls in the ground. What's the first thing? It comes up, and it's a little sprout. Then it goes to a tassel. Then, from a tassel, **back to its original grain**. Well, that's exactly what the Church has done. It come from Luther, Wesley, and now back to the original Grain, **back to Its original Glory, back to the Glory It was at the beginning... changing from Glory to Glory**. It changed from the pagan, down into Luther; and from Luther, down into Wesley;

from Wesley, out into Pentecost; and on and on, **changing from Glory to Glory... And now It's ripe, to bring Him back exactly like He was at the beginning, His same ministry; the same Jesus, the same power, the same Holy Ghost.** The same One that come down on the Day of Pentecost, is the same Holy Ghost that's manifested today, from Glory unto Glory, to Glory. **And is back to Its original Seed**, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost; with the same signs, same wonders, same baptism; same kind of people, acting the same way, with the same power, the same sensation...

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 156-159

What is God's plan/mystery to restore the lost original glory? "Christ in you"!

- **What is it, "The mystery of God"?** "God in you, the hope of Glory" (Col 1.27), **shining forth**, the baptism of the Holy Spirit!

55-0109E - Beginning And Ending Of The Gentile Dispensation, par 145

The climax of that restoration will be the redemption of the body, a resurrection body like His glorious body, enabling a fully restored face to face fellowship

- ... It's from Glory unto Glory. **And the next will be, "Changed from this Glory, into a body like His Own glorious body, where we shall see Him"** (Phil 3.21; Ro 8.23; 1 Jn 3. 2; Ju 24).

"The Mighty God Unveiled Before Us" (64-0629), par 159

- And now... **you are already resurrected.** When God raised Him up, He raised you (Eph 2.4-6); the Son is just now on you. **And now you're growing into a blossom Life like He was, to be resurrected completely in that last day. Your potentials you have now.** Why do you know? Your soul changed, didn't it? Your body come in obedience to It, didn't it? Into obedience to what? A Church? The Word, which is the Life. Then **you are now resurrected from the dead** (Col 3.1-3)... **on your way growing to the fullness of the resurrection**, led by the Spirit!

"It Is The Rising Of The Sun" (65-0418), par 346, 201