

# Great Mystery of Godliness

I Timothy 3:16

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# This Is the Gospel

- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.
- Do you believe the record God gave of His Son?
- Has it changed your life into one of His disciples?
- Do you delight in it as the most precious news?
- Do you love its Person more than anyone or anything?
- Are you competent to tell others the gospel (Heb 5:12-14)?

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# And

- This word connects us to the context going before.
- The church is pillar and ground of the truth (I Tim 3:15).
- The truth we defend and support is about Jesus Christ.
- A terrible departure from the truth occurred (I Tim 4:1-3).
- We love all scripture ... but let us exalt Jesus Christ.
- Let us be pillar and ground of the Man Christ Jesus.

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# Without Controversy

- The information about Jesus is the greatest news ever.
- There is no argument or doubt about its greatness.
- No history or science or philosophy can compete at all.
- It demands your utmost attention, affection, effort.
- If you get distracted by anything else, you controvert it!
- This church must never slide in its devotion to Christ.

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# Great

- This is not a slight topic at all – crush any such ideas.
- Whether you believe or not – the following is incredulous.
- There is no greater information or news you can learn.
- These facts have greatly altered men and the world.
- Never be ashamed to believe or testify of this gospel.
- Your obsession with the gospel measures your heart.

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# Is the Mystery

- These facts and news cannot be discovered by man.
- It is only known by revelation from God to His children.
- Hidden wisdom of the universe is for them (1 Cor 2:6-10).
- Most religions have mysteries, but they are only lies.
- God must reveal this to a man by Spirit and the word.
- There is nothing confusing or difficult if you have faith.

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# Of Godliness

- This word simply intends the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- It describes the true religion of God (I Tim 6:3; II Tim 3:5).
- All truth is subordinate and serves the record of Jesus.
- These historical facts summarize well the true gospel.
- Doctrine, prophecy, and wisdom are all to serve Christ.
- This is revealed information about God and His works.

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# God Was Manifest in the Flesh

- God JEHOVAH became a man to live on earth 33 yrs.
- He did this to die a perfect substitute for His people.
- The character of God is revealed to us in Christ Jesus.
- The virgin birth brought us the incarnate Son of God.
- Jesus is still a Man in heaven as our Mediator (1 Ti 2:5).
- Your future depends fully on this: *Is Jesus your Savior?*

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# Justified in the Spirit

- The Holy Spirit proved Jesus Christ to be God's Son.
- Every religion must be measured by certainty of truth.
- He had the Holy Spirit above others without measure.
- The Holy Spirit came upon Jesus as a dove at His baptism.
- The Holy Spirit empowered Him to do many miracles.
- The Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead (Rom 1:4; 8:11).

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# Seen of Angels

- **Mighty Angels saw and more – they attended to Jesus.**
- **They saw His birth and worshipped (Luke 2:8-20; Heb 1:6).**
- **They helped Him in the wilderness and Gethsemane.**
- **They saw and told His resurrection and His ascension.**
- **They saw and praised His arrival in heaven (Rev 5:11-12).**
- **They care about Jesus and salvation, *what about you?***

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# Preached unto the Gentiles

- For 2000 years God only dealt with the nation of Israel.
- God left the Gentiles in total darkness and ignorance.
- God sent preachers to the Gentiles ... *that were Jews!*
- The most bigoted Jew was the Gentiles' great apostle.
- If Jesus had not ordered it, you would worship Buddha.
- The Gentiles rejoiced to hear this change (Acts 13:46-48).

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# Believed on in the World

- It is one thing to preach truth ... another to believe it.
- Without regeneration, no man will believe (I Cor 2:14).
- Unreal news by Jewish fishermen = Gentile martyrs!
- Apostles preached to whole world (Mat 24:14; Col 1:6,23).
- The multitude in heaven is from every nation, etc.
- The gospel changed lives (Ac 19:19; I Cor 12:2; I Thes 1:9-10).

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# Received up into Glory

- Jesus ascended bodily from earth all the way to heaven.
- This was not a vision of heaven or His spirit going there.
- Resurrection is one thing ... ascension is another thing.
- This makes USA space travel a very elementary effort.
- Jesus is seated at God's right hand ruling the universe.
- He is coming again to work our own bodily ascension!

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# The Only Right Response - Believe

- If you reject this record, you make God a liar (1 John 5:10).

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

- If you reject this record, you will be damned (Mark 16:16).

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

# The Only Right Response - Obey

- If you do not obey God, you have no evidence (Matt 7:21).

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

- If you obey God, you can be sure of election (II Pe 1:10-11).

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

# The Only Right Response - Love

- If you love Jesus, God will abide with you (John 14:23).

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

- If you do not love Jesus, vengeance is coming (I Co 16:22).

If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

# The Only Right Response - Spread

- Are you living so others will ask your hope (1 Pet 3:15)?

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.

- Are you able and ready to convert others (Acts 18:26)?

And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

# For Further Study

Detailed outline of I Timothy 3:16 ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/mystery-of-godliness.pdf>

Directory of sermons about Christ ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/christ.php>

Charles Spurgeon on I Tim 3:16 ... <http://www.spurgeongems.org/vols13-15/chs786.pdf>

More about mysteries of faith ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/mysteries-of-hidden-wisdom.pdf>

More about ascension of Christ ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/he-ascended-up-on-high.pdf>

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