

WITH LAVISH GRACE

EPHESIANS 1:8-10

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: “Grace is the bedrock upon which all Christian belief and practice stand. While grace was not a new concept before Christ’s arrival, the world could not fully understand grace until He came.” (I Peter 1:10-13) Charles Swindoll, The Owner’s Manual for Christians, p. 3.

YOU KNOW THE MYSTERY. Through your God-given faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit makes known to you things that cannot be discovered by the unaided human mind. This mystery here is “a secret beyond the reach of the natural human mind but which God has revealed and unfolded to those who believe.” Martyn Lloyd Jones, God’s Ultimate Purpose, p. 190. The mystery of God is that those who believe and are born again are the ones who know the mystery. The mystery is our relationship with the Lord. It is Christ in you. (**Ephesians 1:7-9, fn 1:9-10, Colossians 1:24-29, fn 1:26-27, Ephesians 2:4-9, fn 2:8-9, Colossians 2:1-5, fn 2:4, Romans 16:25-27, fn 16:25-27**) *How do you know that you know the mystery of God?*

YOU UNDERSTAND THE MYSTERY because the born again have the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives guidance that helps you understand what God has freely given you. His role is to glorify Jesus. (**Ephesians 1:7-9, I Corinthians 2:1-5, fn 2:1-5, I Corinthians 2:6-10, fn 2:7, fn 2:10, I Corinthians 2:11-14, fn 2:12-13, fn 2:14-15, I Corinthians 2:15-16, fn 2:15-16, Ephesians 5:18-20**) *How can you have the very mind of Christ?*

YOU WILL SEE ALL THINGS UNITED. In Christ evil and sin will finally be eradicated in a new heaven and new earth where righteousness dwells. The harmony that will be restored will be in man and between man. There will be perfect “harmony in heaven all under the blessed Lord Jesus Christ, who will be the head of all. Everything again will be united in Him...when all this happens it will never be undone again. All will be re-united in Him to all eternity. That is the message; that is God’s plan. That is the mystery which has been revealed unto us.” Martyn Lloyd-Jones, pp. 206, 207. (**Ephesians 1:7-10, II Peter 3:10-13, fn 3:10-11, fn 3:13, Matthew 16:27, fn 16:27, II Corinthians 5:7-10, fn 5:9-10, I Thessalonians 4:13-18, fn 4:13-18, I Thessalonians 5:1-5, 11, fn 5:4-5**) *How could you prepare yourself and your family for Christ’s return?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?