

EPHESIANS 3 vs 1 以弗所书 3:1

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Paul, who was Jewish, just told us about how through Jesus Christ the two: the Jewish people and the non-Jewish Gentiles are made one, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus being the chief corner stone. And they are being built into a holy dwelling, of God through His Spirit



犹太人保罗刚刚告诉我们，通过耶稣基督，犹太人和非犹太人的外邦人成为一体，建立在使徒和先知的根基上，基督耶稣是房角石。他们被建造成为神藉着圣灵的圣所

¹ For this cause, I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ /

many times, Paul was thrown into prison as he traveled the roman empire preaching the Good News... but notice, he is not really talking about that. Here, he says what holds him captive.

I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ, for you Gentiles / for the ethnos; all the non-Jewish nations and peoples,

² If you heard of the economy/ the oikonomia; and we know what economy means... as we observe the misappropriation of funds in our time given to worthless politicians, thieves and robbers, to govern the nations. Paul talks about God's economy; how God manages and oversees His household affairs.

If you heard of the house rules, the economy of the grace of God which is given me to you / Paul says: God runs His kingdom in every generation **by grace.** God's household is effectively managed by the power of God's grace:

³ how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery / by apokalupsis; by revealing, uncovering His word. Knowing this truth comes from the Spirit of God who reveals; it does not come any other way. The **musterion;** was a great mystery -- a secret of the will of God concerning Jesus the Messiah, good news and fellowship... previously planned.

¹ 因此…作了基督耶稣被囚的…/

很多次，保罗在罗马帝国传播福音的时候被关进了监狱，但是注意，他并不是真的在说那个。在这里，他说出了他被囚禁的原因。

我保罗为你们外邦人作了基督耶稣被囚的，替你们祈祷。/为了 **ethnos;** 所有非犹太国家和民族，

² 谅必你们曾听见…职分/ oikonomia; 当我们看到我们这个时代挪用资金给毫无价值的政客、小偷和强盗来治理国家时，我们知道经济意味着什么。保罗谈到了上帝的经济;神如何管理和监督他的家事。

谅必你们曾听见神赐恩给我，将关切你们的职分托付我，/保罗说:神**藉著恩典**管理他的国，世代代长存。神的家是靠神恩典的大能有效管理的:

³ 用启示使我知道福音的奥秘 / apokalupsis; 通过揭露，揭露他的话语。因为知道这真理是从那启示人的神的灵来的。它不会从别的途径来。musterion;是一个伟大的奥秘——神的旨意关于弥赛亚耶稣的奥秘，好消息和交通……预先计划好的。

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God likes a good mystery, too! In Matthew 13 and Luke 10; Jesus repeatedly said to His disciples, to you has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; which is no longer a mystery; and Paul says,

as I wrote before in few words / he said briefly in chapter 1; and mentions 6 times in this letter,

4 whereby, when you read, you can know my knowledge in the mystery of Christ / Paul wants us to exercise our minds as he writes about his knowledge; and what is knowledge? it is the necessary information needed, to act appropriately; his **sunesis**... precisely, his **mental putting it together** piece by piece this good news is no longer a mystery...

5 which in other generations, was not made known to the sons of men, as it is now revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

Paul tells us more about the once unknown mystery...

6 That the Gentiles should also be joint-heirs and joint-members / all the non-Jewish people; said differently: Paul talks about **all nations**; can you imagine? **no separate but equal members**. Hmm? women, equal to men?! who have come from one blood, Adam's race. Wow! More precisely: **same body**... because there is only ONE Body! In every generation God always sends the stranger and foreigner into our gatherings and assemblies, just to see how they are treated,

and joint-partakers of His promise in Christ by the gospel: And did you hear that? Paul is writing to **the Gentiles**. Notice he did **not** say: to **the Christians**. Now, I bet some Christians are Gentiles. There are some who go around saying or at best asking like inquisitors: ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN?! Nope! That is not Paul. He is writing to Gentiles.

神也喜欢神秘的东西!在马太福音第 13 章和路加福音第 10 章;耶稣屡次对门徒说、神国的奥秘、只叫你们知道。这已经不再是一个谜了;保罗说,

正如我以前略略写过的。 /他在第一章简单地说;在这封信中提到了六次,

4 你们念了,就能晓得我深知基督的奥秘。 /保罗要我们在写他的知识时锻炼我们的思想;什么是知识?它是采取适当行动所需的必要信息;他的日出,准确地说, **他的大脑将它一点一点地拼凑在一起**,这个好消息不再是一个谜了...

5 这奥秘在以前的世代,没有叫人知道,像如今借着圣灵启示他的圣使徒和先知一样。

保罗告诉我们更多关于这个曾经不为人知的秘密。

6 这奥秘就是外邦人在基督耶稣里, /所有非犹太人;保罗说的是所有国家;你能想象吗?没有独立而平等的成员。嗯?男女平等?!他们都是亚当一族的后裔。哇!更确切地说:**同一个身体**...因为只有一个身体!每一代,神都打发外人和外族人到我们的聚会和聚会中去,就是要看看他们受到怎样的对待,

借着福音,得以同为后嗣,同为一体,同蒙应许。 /你听到了吗?保罗是写给外邦人的。注意他并没有说,对基督徒。我敢打赌有些基督徒是外邦人。有一些人会到处说,或者至多像审问官那样问:你是基督徒吗?!不!那不是保罗。他是写给外邦人的。

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Are you a Gentile? Then Paul is writing to you. He is writing to the growing Body of the disciples of the Lord Jesus... whoever they are, wherever he finds them! Lifelong learners... young and old who discover they, too are chosen by God. The danger of chosen people... is that they tend to like their privilege, don't they? Well, that's not why they were chosen. It is our privilege to be responsible; not prideful. And this letter is directed to those who previously were: foreigners... and acrobats... that they too... should be:

→ **joint-heirs,**

and joint-members,

→ **and joint-partakers of His promise in Christ by the gospel / and that's Good News!**

7 to this I was made a minister / diakonos; a deacon; and what do deacons do?

1. They shout at the top of their lungs: Glory to God in the highest... and sing the praises of the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord... in such a joyous way... that common folk will stop and say: let's go check it out!

2. They stand silently at the cross... while Jesus does all the talking.

3. They clean tables and serve meals... and probably scrub toilets, too; and then give their last breath for Jesus Christ. Now days, unlike Paul... some people think they are above all those important activities.

I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effectual working of His power / Paul was energized by God's spiritual dynamite that alone can crack through hard-heads. God's power is... powerful. Now days, it seems that TV cameras zoom in on fizzles... and sputters... and all that human effort. That's not God's power.

你是外邦人吗?那么保罗写信给你。他正在给主耶稣的门徒们写信……无论他们是谁,他在哪里找到他们!终身学习者……无论老少,只要发现自己也被上帝选中。被选中的人的危险在于他们倾向于喜欢自己的特权,不是吗?这不是他们被选中的原因。负责任是我们的荣幸;不是高傲的。这封信是写给那些曾经是:外国人……和杂技演员……他们也……应该是:

借着福音,

得以同为后嗣,

同为一体,同蒙应许。

7 我作了这福音的执事, / diakonos; 一个执事;执事做什么?

1. 他们高声呼喊:“荣耀归给上帝…歌颂救主,我们的主耶稣基督…以如此欢快的方式…以至于普通人会停下来:让我们去看看!”

2.他们默默地站在十字架前,而耶稣在说话。

3.他们擦桌子、上菜……可能还擦洗厕所;然后为耶稣基督献出最后一口气。现在,不像保罗,有些人认为他们高于所有那些重要的活动。

是照神的恩赐。这恩赐是照他运行的大能赐给我的。/保罗被神的属灵炸药所激励,单凭这炸药就能炸穿顽固不化的人。神的能力是…强大的。如今,电视摄像机似乎只会放大失败和噼啪声,以及所有人类的努力。那不是上帝的力量。

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Paul was amazed by God's power; he says the power and energizing of God was amazing and humbling;

⁸ **to me, the very least of all saints / hagios; is this grace given** Paul had caused people to deny their faith; who with the violence of a terrorist... went about destroying the early church, until the power of God grabbed him and threw him down! Paul knew he should have been dead! And for all his life, God graciously made sure... he never forgot. It is always and only by God's grace. It's a gift; given to all of us with no merit involved. It is a gift from our Father God. The reformers spelled it out:

Sola Scripture; **solo** faith; **solo** God! **solo** Christ! **solo** grace!

that I preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ / Paul says, this costly mystery... **it's about Christ**; not to be copied and not to be imitated by anyone; and who wants a cheap imitation, anyways?

⁹ **and to make all men see / phōtisai**; it's a photon word; like turning a prism and showing all spectrums of color... seeing all the multicolored rays of light; describing...

what is the economy of the mystery / God's household economy and ruling; what is the Father's secret plan of how He runs His house. God can keep a secret even in eternity;

which from the beginning of the world, has been concealed by God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

And why did He do that?

保罗对神的大能感到惊奇;他说,神的能力和激励是令人惊奇和谦卑的;

⁸ **我本来比众圣徒中最小的还小。 / hagios**; 赐予保罗的这恩典,岂是叫人不信吗。他以恐怖分子的暴力……四处破坏早期的教会,直到上帝的能力抓住他,把他扔下去!保罗知道他早该死了!在他的一生中,上帝保佑他永远不会忘记。这是神的恩典。这是一份礼物;给我们所有人,没有任何功劳。这是我们的父神给我们的礼物。改革者们解释道:

唯有经文;**唯独**信心;**唯独**上帝!**唯独**基督!**唯独**恩典!

然而他还赐我这恩典, 叫我把基督那测不透的丰富, 传给外邦人。 / 保罗说,这个昂贵的奥秘…是关于基督的;不被复制,不被任何人模仿;再说,谁会想要一个廉价的仿制品呢?

⁹ **又使众人都明白, / phōtisai**; 这是一个光子的词;就像转动一个棱镜,显示出所有的光谱,看到所有五颜六色的光线;描述…



这历代以来隐藏在创造万物之神里的奥秘,是如何安排的。 / 神的经济和统治;天父如何管理他的家的秘密计划是什么?

神甚至在永恒中也能保守秘密;

他为什么这样做呢?

10 to the intent that the principalities and powers in the heavens / the archais; and exousiais; like rulers, the regional monarchies; and authorities like large systems managers; in chapter 1, Paul talked about these diverse spiritual powers -- both good and bad rulers in heaven. Paul says: these rulers watch... from the heavens... observing this mystery unfold; at the end of this letter, he speaks about the spiritual battle going on!

now come to know through the church the manifold / the multi-colored...

Wisdom of God / Christ is the Wisdom of God. And He is best known through the church He is building. But pause and put it together: this verse includes the rebellious 1/3rd of heaven -- all those dimwits. God was not just singing to the choir. He makes all of them in heaven pay attention; all those onlookers, good and bad observing from eternity.

God will have the last laugh, through all us stumble bums on earth who make up: **the Love of His Life** -- the church... He is building! / God our Father is pretty smart; isn't He?! And He's a good Teacher, too!

11 According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord / which THEY planned long ago, it was a rescue plan, in case it was needed; planned in the beginning:

12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him / here, we learn: God our Father isn't a talker only, He's a faither; He acts in faith, too -- He's the Faither of faithers!

13 For this reason, I desire that you do not faint at my tribulations for you, which is your glory / don't lose heart at my tribulations. Use my troubles as your opportunity to boast about the Lord... who helps us!

10 为要借着教会使天上 / archais 和 exousiais 像统治者，地区君主;像大型系统管理者这样的权威机构;在第一章，保罗谈到了这些不同的属灵力量——天上的统治者有好有坏。保罗说:这些执政官从天上观看，观看这奥秘的事;在这封信的结尾，他谈到了正在进行的属灵之战!

执政的，掌权的，现在得知神百般的智慧。 /基督是神的智慧。他最出名的是他正在建造的教堂。但是暂停一下，把它放在一起:这一节包括了天堂的三分之一——所有那些傻瓜。上帝不只是对着唱诗班唱歌。他使天上所有的人都留心;所有那些旁观者，好与坏，从永恒中观察。

在我们这世上绊倒的流浪者中间，神要笑到最后:**他生命的爱**——他所建造的教会! /上帝我们的父亲是非常聪明的;不是吗? !他也是个老师!

11 这是照神从万世以前，在我们主基督耶稣里所定的旨意。 /这是他们很久以前就计划好的，这是一个救援计划，以防万一;一开始计划:

12 我们因信耶稣，就在他里面放胆无惧，笃信不疑的来到神面前。 /在这里，我们知道:神我们的父不仅仅是一个说话的人，他也是一个父亲;他也是凭信心行事的——他是众父之父!

13 所以我求你们，不要因我为你们所受的患难丧胆。这原是你们的荣耀。 /不要因我的苦难而丧失信心。把我的困难当作你夸耀帮助我们的主的机会!

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14 **For this cause, I bow my knees**

to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 **for whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named** / you know, there is only one family that matters; with one Father. And if there is any question to whom Paul bows down, it sure wasn't Peter. Any other pretender of fatherhood, who dreams he is over this family is a freak or pervert!

→ **For this cause I bow my knees to the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ**

16 **that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be empowered with His might by His Spirit in the inner man;**

→ 17 **that Christ dwells in your heart by faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,**

18 **with enough strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, length, depth and height;**

19 **and to know the love of Christ which super-exceeds knowledge,** the word is: **uperballousan...** the Son's great love which exceeds all other acts of love. Now days in baseball, we would say: it was not just a home run, **but He hit the ball out of the park!**

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down their life for a friend; here Paul says about a foundation established by God our Father... built on love;

14 **因此，我在父面前屈膝，**

对我们主耶稣基督的父，

15 **天上地上的全家，都是从他得名**/你知道，只有一个家庭是重要的;有一个父亲。如果有人问保罗是谁屈服的，那肯定不是彼得。任何一个假装做父亲的人，如果他梦到自己已经摆脱了这个家，那他就是个怪胎或者变态!

因此，我在父面前屈膝，

16 **求他按着他丰盛的荣耀，借着他的灵，叫你们心里的力量刚强起来，**

17 **使基督因你们的信，住在你们心里，叫你们的爱心，有根有基，**

18 **能以和众圣徒一同明白基督的爱，是何等长阔高深，**

19 **并知道这爱是过于人所能测度的，**
/这个词是:神的大爱，胜过一切其他的爱。在今天的棒球运动中，我们会说:这不仅仅是一个本垒打，**而是他把球击出了球场!**

人的爱心没有比这更大的:为朋友舍命;保罗在这里说到一个由我们的父神所建立的根基...建立在爱上;

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Paul says to all: **seize**; reach and grasp: what Jesus did for us, let it settle in; let it be at home in your mind and heart; know, and seek to grasp the inexplicable, to know every dimension of love -- not only the Father's love, but also of His lovely Son who is HIS costly glory, His reason to boast. John said: **Christ Jesus is the Glory of God**. God our Father loves to brag about His only begotten Son -- Jesus our Lord

that you be filled up to all the fullness of God.

²⁰ **Now to Him who empowers to do super-abundantly... beyond all we ask or think, according to the power that energizes within us,**

²¹ Δόξα ... Glory to Him... in the church

the ἐκκλησία, the word is: **ekklesia**. In some countries, young people grow up, thinking there is only one church. Well, that is true. It is the church Jesus told us about; He said, **I will build My church**... it is **the Love of His Life -- His Bride** -- His people... made without even one brick or stone... or blockhead. Paul said... made of Jewish and Gentile peoples... being made into one dwelling of God by His Spirit:

To Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus through all ages, forever and ever.

Amen!

保罗对众人说:抓住;伸手去抓:耶稣为我们所做的,让它扎根;让它在你的思想和心中成为家常便饭;要知道,并设法把握那无法解释的,要知道爱的每一层面——不仅是父的爱,也是他爱子的爱。爱子是他极宝贵的荣耀,是他夸耀的理由。约翰说:**基督耶稣是神的荣耀**。我们的父神喜欢吹嘘他的独生子——我们的主耶稣

便叫神一切所充满的,充满了你们。

²⁰ **神能照着运行在我们心里的大力,充充足足的成就一切超过我们所求所想的。**

²¹ 但愿他在教会中,

ἐκκλησία,这个词的意思是:**ekklesia**。在一些国家,年轻人在成长过程中认为只有一个教堂。这是真的。这就是耶稣告诉我们的教会;他说:“**我要建造我的教会**……这是**他生命中的挚爱——他的新娘——他的子民**……不用一砖一石……或者是傻子。保罗说…由犹太人和外邦人组成…被圣灵使成为神的一个居所。

并在基督耶稣里, **得着荣耀**,直到世代代,永永远远。

阿们!

In Christ Alone