

# The Fellowship of the Mystery

# Eph 3:9

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

9 And to make all men see what is the \*fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

COMPANION BIBLE Marginal note:

**Fellowship.** The texts read *oikonomia* v2 instead of *koinonia* 

# 7

Koinonia = fellowship, partaker, communion

Oikonomia = administration, economy, dispensation

#### Ephesians 3 (KJV)

For this cause (EPH 2) I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

- <sup>2</sup> If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:
- <sup>3</sup> How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,
- <sup>4</sup>Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)
- <sup>5</sup>Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;
- <sup>6</sup>That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:
- <sup>7</sup>Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.
- <sup>8</sup> Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;
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ls?

The dispensation of the grace of God

The dispensation of the mystery?

The grace of God is the mystery?

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What is God stressing in Verse 9?

The dispensation?

The fellowship?

What is the overall effect if we change the word in the Greek?

Will it bring about a better understanding of the truth?

Or will it detract from God's intended teaching?

## Eph 3:2-3, 9

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<sup>3</sup> How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery;

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

## Col 1:25-26

for his body's sake, which is the church:

Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

<sup>26</sup> Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

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## Col 1:25-26

for his body's sake, which is the church: = (fellowship)

Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of the grace of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

Look at what the modern Bibles do with Eph 3:6

The fellowship of the mystery Is our a fellowship with Israel

# The name 'Jew' or 'Israel' is not in the Greek Text

loudaios (Ἰουδαῖοι) Ἰσραήλ (Israḗl)

Modern versions of the Bible show evidence that they do not recognize that Israel is being temporarily set aside by inserting these words into the text.

αὐτῷ· 17 καὶ ἐλθών εὐηγγελίσατο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν, καὶ τοῖς ἐγγὺς, 18 ὅτι δι' αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφότεροι ἐν ἑνὶ πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα. 19 "Αρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ συμποῖτιον τῷν ἀχοκαὶ ὑιξῶς οῦ Θοῦ, 20 ὑπο κοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ πριφη ἀν, ὅνως ἀνρος ων τίο καὶ Ἰησοῦ Χρισοῦ, 21 ἐν ῷ πᾶσα ἡ οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὔξει εἰς ναὸν ἄγιον ἐν Κυρίῳ, 22 ἐν ῷ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν πνεύματι.

1 Τούτου χάριν ἐγὼ Παῦλος ὁ δέσμιος τοῦ Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν τῶν ἐθνῶν, 2 εἴγε ήκούσατε τὴν οἰκονομίαν τῆς χάριτος τοῦ Θεοῦ τῆς δοθείσης μοι εἰς ὑμᾶς, 3 ὅτι κατὰ ἀποκάλυψιν έγνώρισε μοι τὸ μυστήριον, καθώς προέγραψα εν όλίγω. 4 πρὸς δ δύνασθε ἀναγινώσκοντες νοῆσαι την σύνεσίν μου εν τῷ μυστηρίῳ τοῦ Χριστοῦ, 5 δ εν ετέραις γενεαῖς οὐκ εγνωρίσθη τοῖς υἱοῖς τῶν ανθρώπων, ώς νῦν ἀπεκαλύφθη τοῖς ἀγίοις ἀποστόλοις αὐτοῦ καὶ προφήταις ἐν πνεύματι, 6 εἶναι τὰ ἔθνη συγκληρονόμα καὶ σύσσωμα, καὶ συμμέτοχα τῆς ἐπαγγελίας αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ, διὰ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, 7 οὖ ἐγενόμην διάκονος κατὰ τὴν δωρεὰν τῆς χάριτος τοῦ Θεοῦ τὴν δοθεῖσάν μοι κατὰ τὴν ἐνέργειαν τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ. 8 μιοὶ τῷ ἐλαχιστοτέρῷ πάντων τῶν ἀγίων ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις αὕτη, έν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν εὐαγγελίσασθαι τὸν ἀνεξιχνίαστον πλοῦτον τοῦ Χριστοῦ, 9 καὶ φωτίσαι πάντας τίς ή κοινωνία τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ ἀποκεκρυμμένου ἀπὸ τῶν αἰώνων ἐν τῷ Θεῷ, τῷ τὰ πάντα κτίσαντι διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, 10 ἵνα γνωρισθῆ νῦν ταῖς ἀρχαῖς καὶ ταῖς ἐξουσίαις ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις, διὰ τῆς ἐκκλησίας, Ατίλυτοῦς Κος σερία τι διθρίες 11 καν νπίδιες το κάν κόν κον είν είν είν το εκέ Χριστῷ 'Ιησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν, 12 ἐν ῷ ἔχομεν τὴν παρρησίαν καὶ τὴν προσαγωγὴν ἐν πεποιθήσει, διὰ τῆς πίστεως αὐτοῦ. 13 Διὸ αἰτοῦμαι μὴ ἐκκακεῖν ἐν ταῖς θλίψεσί μου ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν, ἥτις ἐστὶ δόξα ὑμῶν. 14 Τούτου χάριν κάμπτω τὰ γόνατά μου πρὸς τὸν πατέρα τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, 15 ἐξ

#### **AMPLIFIED BIBLE**

[it is this:] that the Gentiles are now joint heirs [with the Jews] and members of the same body, and joint partakers [sharing] in the [same divine] promise in Christ Jesus through [their faith in] the good news [of salvation].

#### **COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE**

This plan is that the Gentiles would be coheirs and parts of the same body, and that they would share with the Jews in the promises of God in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

#### **COMPLETE JEWISH BIBLE**

that in union with the Messiah and through the Good News the Gentiles were to be joint heirs, a joint body and joint sharers with the Jews in what God has promised.

#### **COMTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION**

And the mystery is this: Because of Christ Jesus, the good news has given the Gentiles a share in the promises God gave to the Jews. God has also let the Gentiles be part of the same body.

#### **EASY-TO-READ VERSION**

And this is the secret truth: that by hearing the Good News, those who are not Jews will share with the Jews in the blessings God has for his people. They are part of the same body, and they share in the promise God made through Christ Jesus.

#### **EASY ENGLISH BIBLE**

This is the message of God's good news: Gentiles, as well as Jews, may receive the good things that God has prepared for his children. We may all belong to the same group of God's people, like we are his body. Everyone who is united with Christ Jesus receives the good things that God has promised.

#### **EXPANDED BIBLE**

This is that ·secret [mystery]: that through the ·Good News [Gospel] the Gentiles ·will share with the Jews in God's blessing [Lare co-heirs]. They belong to the same body, and they share together in the promise that God made in Christ Jesus.

#### **GOD'S WORD TRANSLATION**

This mystery is the Good News that people who are not Jewish have the same inheritance as Jewish people do. They belong to the same body and share the same promise that God made in Christ Jesus.

#### **GOOD NEWS TRANSLATION**

The secret is that by means of the gospel the Gentiles have a part with the Jews in God's blessings; they are members of the same body and share in the promise that God made through Christ Jesus.

#### INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BIBLE

This is that secret truth: that the non-Jews will receive what God has for his people, just as the Jews will. The non-Jews are together with the Jews as part of the same body. And they share together in the promise that God made in Christ Jesus. The non-Jews have all of this because of the Good News.

#### THE LIVING BIBLE

And this is the secret: that the Gentiles will have their full share with the Jews in all the riches inherited by God's sons; both are invited to belong to his Church, and all of God's promises of mighty blessings through Christ apply to them both when they accept the Good News about Christ and what he has done for them.

#### NAMES OF GOD BIBLE

This mystery is the Good News that people who are not Jewish have the same inheritance as Jewish people do. They belong to the same body and share the same promise that God made in Christ **Yeshua**.

#### **NEW CENTURY VERSION**

This is that secret: that through the Good News those who are not Jews will share with the Jews in God's blessing. They belong to the same body, and they share together in the promise that God made in Christ Jesus.

#### **NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION**

Here is the mystery. Because of the good news, God's promises are for Gentiles as well as for Jews. Both groups are parts of one body. They share in the promise. It belongs to them because they belong to Christ Jesus.

#### **NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION**

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

#### **NEW LIFE VERSION**

Let me tell you that the Good News is for the people who are not Jews also. They are able to have life that lasts forever. They are to be a part of His church and family, together with the Jews. And together they are to receive all that God has promised through Christ.

#### **NEW LIVING TRANSLATION**

And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus.

#### **NEW TESTAMENT FOR EVERYONE**

The secret is this: that, through the gospel, the Gentiles are to share Israel's inheritance. They are to become fellow members of the body, along with them, and fellow sharers of the promise in Messiah Jesus.

#### **WORLDWIDE ENGLISH NT**

This is God's plan. Those who are not Jews will also share in the blessings of God. They also are a part of the body of Jesus Christ. They also will receive the things God has promised in Jesus Christ through the good news.

#### (MY CATHOLIC BIBLE)

It is no less than this: in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body And sharers of the promis through the preaching of the gospel



In my opinion

The entire religion of Christianity developed as it did

Because saints did not see the **fellowship** of the mystery as being now independent of Israel

And did not come unto the acknowledgment of the truth

About the change that took place at the end of Acts

The dispensation of the grace of God and the dispensation of the mystery became simply Christ among the Gentiles so that they could all become Christians along with God's chosen People Israel looking for the return of Christ and the Millennial Kingdom.

In the absence of right division the understanding of the natural mind must be this

"the salvation of God was sent to the Gentiles" "to make of the twain one new man" "reconcile both unto God in one body" "fellow-heirs and one body with Israel and partakers of Israel's promises in Christ by the (kingdom) gospel"

# Eph 3:9

Look at what the modern Bibles do with the choice of Oikonomia

#### Bible Vesions with *Oikonomia*

ASV

and to make all men see what is the dispensation of the mystery which for ages hath been hid in God who created all things;

**AMP** 

and to make plain [to everyone] **the plan of the mystery** [regarding the uniting of believing Jews and Gentiles into one body] which [until now] was kept hidden through the ages in [the mind of] God who created all things.

**AMPC** 

Also to enlighten all men and make plain to them what is **the plan** [regarding the Gentiles and providing for the salvation of all men] of the mystery kept hidden through the ages and concealed until now in [the mind of] God Who created all things by Christ Jesus.

**CSB** 

and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.

**CSBA** 

and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.

**CEB** 

God sent me to reveal the secret plan that had been hidden since the beginning of time by God, who created everything.

**CJB** 

and of letting everyone see how this secret plan is going to work out. This plan, kept hidden for ages by God, the Creator of everything,

**CEV** 

God, who created everything, wanted me to help everyone understand the mysterious plan that had always been hidden in his mind.

**DARBY** 

and to enlighten all [with the knowledge of] what is **the administration of the mystery** hidden throughout the ages in God, who has created all things, DLNT

and enlighten everyone to see what is the stewardship of the mystery having been hidden from the past ages in God, the One having created all things,

<u>DRA</u>

And to enlighten all men, that they may see what is **the dispensation of the mystery** which hath been hidden from eternity in God, who created all things:

**ERV** 

And God gave me the work of telling all people about **the plan for his secret truth**. That secret truth has been hidden in him since the beginning of time. He is the one who created everything.

#### **EASY**

I help everyone to know how God makes his purpose happen. God himself created all things, and he has hidden this secret during past times.

**EHV** 

and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things.

**ESV** 

and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,

**ESVUK** 

and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things,

**EXB** 

And God gave me the work of 'telling [making plain; enlightening] all people about the 'plan for [administration of; <sup>C</sup> the same word translated "work" in v. 2] his 'secret [mystery], which has been hidden 'in [or by] him 'since the beginning of time [<sup>L</sup> from the ages]. He is the One who created everything.

<u>GW</u>

He allowed me to explain the way this mystery works. God, who created all things, kept it hidden in the past.

**GNT** 

and of making all people see how God's **secret plan is to be put into effect**. God, who is the Creator of all things, kept his secret hidden through all the past ages, HCSB

and to shed light for all about the administration of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.

<u>ICB</u>

And God gave me the work of telling all people **about the plan for God's secret truth**. That secret truth has been hidden in God since the beginning of time. God is the One who created everything.

**ISV** 

and help everyone see how this secret that has been at work was hidden for ages by God, who created all things.

**LSB** 

and to bring to light for all what is **the administration of the mystery** which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things;

**LEB** 

and to enlighten everyone as to what is the administration of the mystery hidden from the ages by God, who created all things,

#### TLB

and to explain to everyone that God is the Savior of the Gentiles too, just as he who made all things had secretly planned from the very beginning.

#### **MOUNCE**

and to make it plain to all what is the administration of the mystery, which was kept hidden for · ages in · God who created · all things,

#### **NOG**

He allowed me to explain the way this mystery works. God, who created all things, kept it hidden in the past.

#### **NABRE**

and to bring to light [for all] what is the plan of the mystery hidden from ages past in God who created all things,

#### **NASB**

and to enlighten all people as to what the plan of the mystery is which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things;

#### NASB1995

and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things;

#### **NCB**

and to enlighten all concerning the administration of the mystery that had been kept hidden throughout the ages in God, the creator of all things.

#### **NCV**

And God gave me the work of telling all people about **the plan for his secret**, which has been hidden in him since the beginning of time. He is the One who created everything. NET

and to enlighten everyone about God's secret plan—the mystery that has been hidden for ages in God who has created all things.

#### **NIRV**

God told me to make clear to everyone **how the mystery came about**. In times past it was kept hidden in the mind of God, who created all things.

#### NIV

and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

#### **NIVUK**

and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

#### NLV

I was to make all men understand the meaning of this secret. God kept this secret to Himself from the beginning of the world. And He is the One Who made all things.

#### NLT

I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

#### **NRSVA**

and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

#### **NRSVACE**

and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

#### **NRSVCE**

and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

#### **NRSVUE**

and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,

#### NTFE

My job is to make clear to everyone just what **the secret plan is**, the purpose that's been hidden from the very beginning of the world in God who created all things.

OJB

And to shed light on what is the pekudat Hashem of the Sod that was meOlam nistar (hidden) in Hashem, who created all things,

#### **RGT**

and make clear to all what **the stewardship of the mystery** is (which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, Who has created all things by Jesus Christ);

#### <u>RSV</u>

and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

#### **RSVCE**

and to make all men see what is **the plan of the mystery** hidden for ages in God who created all things;

#### TLV

and to bring to light the plan of the mystery—which for ages was hidden in God, who created all things.

#### **VOICE**

I am privileged to enlighten all of Adam's descendants to the mystery concealed from previous ages by God, the Creator of all, through Jesus the Anointed.

#### <u>WEB</u>

and to make all men see what is **the administration of the mystery** which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things through Jesus Christ,

#### <u>WE</u>

God has blessed me so that I might tell all people plainly **what his plan is**. God, who made all things, did not tell anyone about his plan in all the times in the past. WYC

and to lighten all men [and to enlighten all men], which is the dispensation of [the] sacrament hid from worlds in God, that made all things of nought;

#### Bible versions with koinonia

**KJ21** 

and to make all men see what is the **fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the world...

**BRG** 

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world...

**GNV** 

And to make clear unto all men what the **fellowship of the mystery** is, which from the beginning of the world...

**JUB** 

and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the ages has been hid in God...

<u>KJV</u>

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world...

**AKJV** 

and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world...

**MEV** 

and to reveal for all people what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages...

**KJV** 

and to make all see what is the **fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the ages...

<u>NMB</u>

and to make all men see what the fellowship of the mystery is. This mystery has from the beginning of the world...

**YLT** 

and to cause all to see what [is] the fellowship of the secret that hath been hid from the ages in God...

# Far Above All Translation

#### Eph 3:9

καὶ φωτίσαι πάντας τίς ἡ {RP P1904: οἰκονομία} [TR: κοινωνία] τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ ἀποκεκρυμμένου ἀπὸ τῶν αἰώνων ἐν τῷ θεῷ τῷ τὰ πάντα κτίσαντι διὰ Ἰησοῦ χριστοῦ,

and to enlighten
everyone as to what
the {RP P1904:
dispensation} [TR:
fellowship] of the
mystery is,
which was hidden from
the ages in God, who
created
all things through Jesus
Christ.

οἰκονομία, dispensation, RP P1904 F1859=11/13

vs. κοινωνία, fellowship, TR
F1859=1/13 (Scrivener's e)
vs. κονομία (a misspelling probably
from an exemplar
reading οἰκονομία, dispensation),
F1859=1/13 (Scrivener's k\*). AV
differs textually. RP HF on the
Majority Text side and NA26 and
other critical editions attest to
a dispensation of the mystery.

was hidden: having been hidden.

The "one new man" of Eph 2:15 was created of the two in Christ at the cross. "But God", "But Now", "Now therefore"

When Israel was set aside, so were their promises.

Salvation is now available to all men equally.

The "fellowship of the mystery" was chosen in Christ before the overthrow of the world and is being called out from among the "one new man" (all in Christ).

# What is unique about the fellowship of the mystery?

It is not connected to the promises and hope of Israel

It is of its own identity

# What is unique about the fellowship of the mystery?

## Its Headship

Its Blessings	Its Knowledge	Its Placement
Its Choosing	Its sealing	Its Authority
Its Judgment	Its Spirit	Its Habitation
Its Adoption	Its Understanding	Its Equality
Its Inheritance	Its Glory	Its Citizenship

Its Calling Its Grace Its Purpose

Its salvation Its Hope Its Resurrection

Its Workmanship Its Good Works Its Unity

Its Fullness Its Perfection Its Love

# Philippians 1:3-7

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, <sup>5</sup> For your fellowship (koinonia) in the gospel from the first day until now; <sup>6</sup> Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: <sup>7</sup>Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.

# Phil 4:14-15

Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did **communicate** with my affliction. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church **communicated** with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

Communicate with (sunkoinoneo) my affliction means having had fellowship with my afflictions...

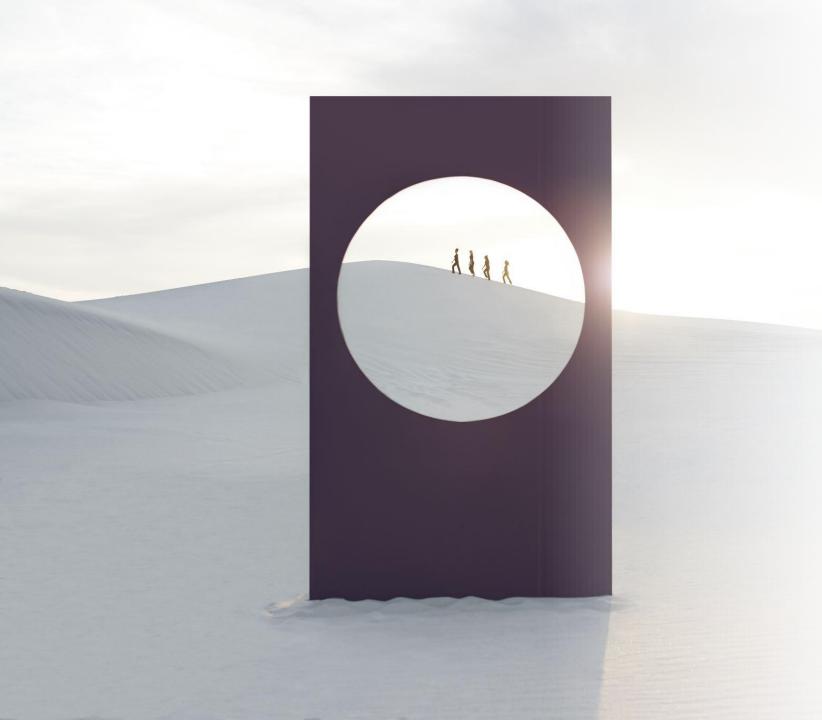
Commiuncated (koinoneo) means partaker with me...fellowshipped with me concerning giving and receiving.

Without right division and without the word of truth traditional Christianity can only be led to the natural conclusion that they must be somehow be associated with Israel in order to be included in God's chosen People.

"Dispensation of the mystery" does not occur in the Scriptures

The "Dispensation of the grace of God"
Given to Paul for us...
What does this mean?
Can it also be a mystery?

(stay tuned)



# The Fellowship of the Mystery