

Romans 11:25–27 NKJV 25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. 26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “*The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;* 27 *For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.*”

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Paul again warns his Gentile brothers about an attitude of arrogance concerning the Jews. He says, “Don’t be **wise in your own opinion.**” That is one reason Paul is sharing this truth with them about God’s _____ for Jews and Gentiles alike. He tells them he does not want them to be **ignorant of this mystery** concerning the _____ spiritual **blindness** of the Jews and the ultimate salvation both of believing Gentiles and believing Jews.

A **mystery** is a truth that has been kept _____, or at least not fully revealed, for ages.

Romans 16:25–26 NKJV 25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began 26 but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—

The mystery to which Paul is referring here is the mystery of how God called a people unto Himself (the _____) in order to offer salvation to all the rest of the world (the _____) and how ultimately God’s purpose in doing so will be accomplished in spite of the unbelief of the Jews resulting in the spiritual blindness of many of them.

Paul says this mystery is now known. It has been _____. So what is the secret?

The Mystery in Three Parts

I. THE PARTIAL SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS OF THE JEWS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE _____ OF THE GENTILES COMES INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

- A. The fullness of the Gentiles means every Gentile who is going to be _____ prior to the inauguration of Christ's physical rule upon the earth, the Millennial Kingdom.
- B. After the rapture of the church and near the beginning of the _____, God begins to gather into His Kingdom the fullness of the Gentiles. God accomplishes this in three ways.
1. God sends the _____ Witnesses.

Revelation 11:3-6 NKJV 3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. 4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. 5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. 6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

- a. The two witnesses begin their ministry at the start of the tribulation. (11:3 - 1,260 days = 3 ½ years.) They are killed and _____ at the midpoint of the tribulation.
- b. The most common candidates: Enoch, _____, Moses
- c. God gives them supernatural powers as authentication that they are His witnesses. Their coming is prophesied in

Zechariah 4:11-14 NKJV 11 Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?" 12 And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?" 13 Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." 14 So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

2. God sends the _____.

Revelation 7:1-8 NKJV 1 After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. 2 Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." 4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed: 5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed; 6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed; 7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed; 8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.

- a. All _____, 12,000 from each tribe.
- b. These Jews all get saved.
- c. They are sealed with the name of God on their foreheads.
- d. They are protected from plagues and from the _____.
- e. I believe their purpose is to spread the gospel throughout the earth during the first half of the tribulation. This is necessary because the _____ has been taken out of the earth by the rapture.

Just an observation: Is this not just like God? He calls the Jews to be His chosen people and a Kingdom of _____ to represent Himself to the Gentiles and the Gentiles to Himself. They don't do it. So during their period of unbelief, God calls a group of Jews from within the whole nation of Jews to be His representatives to the Gentiles again! This group does it! They are faithful. We will see the results below.

3. God sends an _____ to encircle the globe and proclaim the gospel one final time.

Revelation 14:6 NKJV Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—

What is the result of these three actions on God's part?

A Great _____ Is Saved. (7:9-17)

Revelation 7:9-17 NKJV 9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." 13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. 16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; 17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- a. Innumerable
- b. From every tribe, nation, _____.
- c. Came out of the period of the tribulation.
- d. Saved by faith in Jesus - "Washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb."
- e. Most of these become _____!

What happens after the angel circles the globe proclaiming the gospel?

Revelation 14:14–15 NKJV 14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

And then the Scripture says,

Revelation 15:8 NKJV The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

I understand that to mean that nobody else gets saved until the Lord Jesus returns for the Battle of Armageddon.

II. GOD WEEDS OUT ALL OF THE JEWS WHO STUBORNLY REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST AS THEIR MESSIAH.

A. The siege of _____ will provide the final purging of rebellious Jews from Israel in preparation for Christ's return.

Ezekiel 20:33-38 NKJV 33 "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "surely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you. 34 I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face. 36 Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you," says the Lord GOD. 37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; 38 I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

B. _____ of the Jews left in Israel will die in the siege.

Zechariah 13:8-9 NKJV 8 And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it: 9 I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.'

III. AFTER JESUS RETURNS FOR THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON, THROWS THE ANTICHRIST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE, BINDS SATAN AND CASTS HIM INTO THE PIT, HE GOES TO JERUSALEM WHERE THE _____ OF ISRAEL THAT HAS SURVIVED THE TRIBULATION BELIEVES IN JESUS AS THEIR MESSIAH AND TRUSTS HIM AS SAVIOR AND _____.

Zechariah 12:10 NKJV "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

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Zechariah 13:1 NKJV “In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
that makes me white as snow.
No other fount I know.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.