

**“Sharing The Secret”**  
**Ephesians 3:1-13**  
**Sermon Series: “Be Rich”**

**Introduction:** Preston Ford preached from this passage on June 9th. We decided to preach the same passage from two different angles. His focus was on the meaning and implications of the mystery that is referred to here. I am focusing on Paul as a messenger of that mystery and how that relates to us today. The mystery is the open secret that Jesus saves Jews and Gentiles and brings them together as one in the body of Christ, with the latter part of that particularly being the mystery because the Old Testament shows that God saves Gentiles. Preston’s main idea was, “The plan of God unites people in the Son of God to proclaim the mystery of God and display the wisdom of God for the glory of God.”

**Main Idea: We are to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ to our neighbors and the nations.**

Verse 9 refers to “make[ing] all see.” That literally means “to shine the light.” We are to shine the light of Jesus, the gospel, and this mystery (which highlights the importance of the church) to our neighbors and the nations. “We” in the main idea refers to individual believers and the church collectively. Of course, sharing our faith with others can be intimidating. There are people in our world today to whom the very idea of evangelism is offensive. **Why proclaim Christ then? Here are four reasons from this text.**

**1. Jesus is the greatest treasure ever, and we talk about what we treasure.** Paul (and us too) was graced to proclaim “the unsearchable riches of Christ.” “Unsearchable” literally means “that which cannot be traced out” (Wuest). Riches refers to all the wealth contained in Jesus that is bestowed upon us at salvation. So this is saying that we cannot comprehend the treasure that Jesus is and the

spiritual wealth that He has bestowed upon us in salvation. Jesus is our Lord and Savior, but He is also our ultimate Treasure as well, and we talk about what is really important and valuable to us. Therefore, if we value Jesus properly, we will proclaim Him accordingly.

**2. Jesus is a treasure valuable enough to suffer for.** Paul was in prison while writing this letter and refers to that in verse 1. When Jesus saved Paul, He said to Ananias, “For I will show him [Paul] how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake” (Acts 9:16). We certainly see this fulfilled in Paul’s life. However, that was not completely unique to Paul but is actually a part of the normal Christian life (Matthew 5:10-12, Philippians 1:29, Colossians 1:24-29).

**3. Jesus is a treasure we HAVE to talk about.** Evangelism is a matter of stewardship and obedience. We have been entrusted with the good news of Jesus and are accountable to God for sharing it with our neighbors and the nations. “Dispensation” in verse 2 conveys the idea of stewardship.

**4. Jesus is a treasure we GET to talk about.** We are graced to talk about the grace we have been given. We are responsible to obey, but we should ultimately view evangelism as the privilege of bragging on Jesus for what He did for us and how His grace has transformed us. Think about how much Jesus transformed Paul’s life. This brought humility to Paul. He referred to himself as the “most least” of the saints. Has your life been transformed by Jesus? If so, are you sharing that with others? Paul was specifically graced to be the apostle to the Gentiles. That was his sphere. You and I have a sphere also (2 Corinthians 10:12-18).

**Conclusion:** Is Jesus your greatest treasure? Does your life reflect that you treasure Him? Are you sharing this treasure with others?