

“The Church Is the Plan” (Ephesians 3:1–13)

Introduction (Verse 1 of the Sermon Text)

Big Idea: Because of Christ, gospel grace to the church displays gospel glory to the universe.

- I. The Gospel Mystery Now Revealed (verses 2–6)
 - a. The Mystery Now Revealed to the Apostles and Prophets (verses 2–5)

Acts 26:12–23
 - b. The Mystery Once Concealed from Our Race (verses 4–5)

1 Peter 1:10–12; 1 Cor. 2:6–10a
 - c. The Mystery That the Gentiles Equally Share the Benefits of Israel’s Christ (verse 6)
- II. The Amazing Grace in This Revelation (verses 7–13)
 - a. Grace That Made the Persecutor the Preacher (verses 7–9)

1 Cor. 15:3–11; 1 Tim. 1:12–16; Acts 7:51–60; 22:17–21; 26:9–11; Luke 7:47
 - b. Grace That Brought the Gentiles Christ’s Riches (verse 8b)
 - c. Grace That Put the Church on Universal Display (verses 9–10)

Eph. 1:19–21; 2:1–2; 6:10–12; 1 Cor. 4:9; 6:1–3; 11:8–10; 1 Peter 1:12; Heb. 12:22–23a
 - d. Grace That Planned Reconciliation through Christ (verses 11–12)

Eph. 1:3–14
 - e. Grace That Works Glory through Suffering (verse 13)

Acts 26:19–22

Concluding Applications

- 1) Praise the grace of God to undeserving sinners.

Titus 3:3–7

- 2) Feel the gaze of heaven and earth upon the church.

Heb. 1:13–14; 1 Peter 2:12; Matt. 5:14–16; Luke 12:8–9; Rev. 5:8–14; 7:9–12

- 3) See the glory in suffering for Christ's gospel and church.

Col. 1:24–2:2; 1 Tim. 1:8–12; 1 Peter 4:12–16