

God's Agenda for This Age

Life in Christ: Wealth, Walk, Warfare (Ephesians) – Part 69

Ephesians 3:10c-13

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To me, less than the least¹ of all holy ones, was this grace given: to tell the good news of the untrackable wealth of Christ,⁹ and to enlighten all *as to* what is the stewardship of the mystery which has been hidden away from the ages in God, who created all things,¹⁰ in order that *it* might be made known now to the rulers and to

the authorities in the heavenlies through the church: namely, the multifaceted wisdom of God —¹¹ *made known* in accord with the plan² of the ages³ which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have boldness and access⁴ in full assurance through faith in Him.¹³ Therefore I ask *you* not to lose heart in my tribulations for you, for they⁵ are your glory. [DJP]

Introduction:

I. Its _____: _____ (vv. 10c-11a)

A. In That It Is Comp_____ : *the multifaceted wisdom of God* (v. 10c)

1. Paul made *God's wisdom* known
 - a. **Nature** of wisdom

 - b. **God's** wisdom

 - c. **This** wisdom

2. Paul made God's *multifaceted* wisdom known
 - The **speckled sheep** Jacob was paid (Genesis 31:8)
 - Joseph's **many-colored tunic** (Genesis 37:3)
 - Various **diseases** Jesus healed (Luke 4:40)
 - Various **pleasures** that enslave the lost (Titus 3:3)
 - The various **temptations** we fall into (James 1:2)

B. In That It Is Comp_____ : *God's plan of the ages* (v. 11a)

1. It takes in the *ages*
 - 1 Corinthians ____:7
 - 1 Corinthians ____:11
 - 2 Corinthians ____:4
 - Ephesians ____:21

¹ Word probably coined by Paul; very literally "least-er."

² Or *purpose*.

³ Or *eternal plan / purpose*.

⁴ Or *bold access*, as both are bound by one definite article.

⁵ Literally *which*, but in a causative sense.

2. It is *one plan*

- Genesis __:15
- Ephesians __:4
- Revelation 21—22

II. Its Focal Point: _____ (v. 11b-12)

1. ...*which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord* (v. 11b)
 - a. It was made *in conjunction with Him*

John __:1

John __:5, 24

- b. It was made _____ on Him

Ephesians __:4

John __:34

John __:38

John __:2

John __:6

Colossians __:19–20

- c. It was made _____ on Him

Colossians __:16–18

Philippians __:8–10

2. ...*in whom we have boldness and access in full assurance through faith in Him* (v. 12)

III. Its _____: _____ (v. 13)

A. The Connection: *Therefore*

B. The Application