

**“MAKING KNOWN TO US THE MYSTERY OF HIS WILL”**

EPHESIANS 1:8-10

*The Father does not wish us to be ignorant of the riches of his grace for which we are recipients*

*God's timing is perfect;*

**GALATIANS 4:4**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,

*We know of God's rich grace only because he has communicated it to us;*

**HEBREWS 1:1-2**

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

*God's grace is perceived only by the work of the Spirit;*

**1 CORINTHIANS 2:14**

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

*God's plan of consummation;*

**COLOSSIANS 1:16-18**

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

**ROMANS 8:19-21**

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

*Similar themes in other prison epistles;*

**COLOSSIANS 1:19-20**

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11**

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*These things are only understood by faith;*

**HEBREWS 2:8-9**

... Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death...