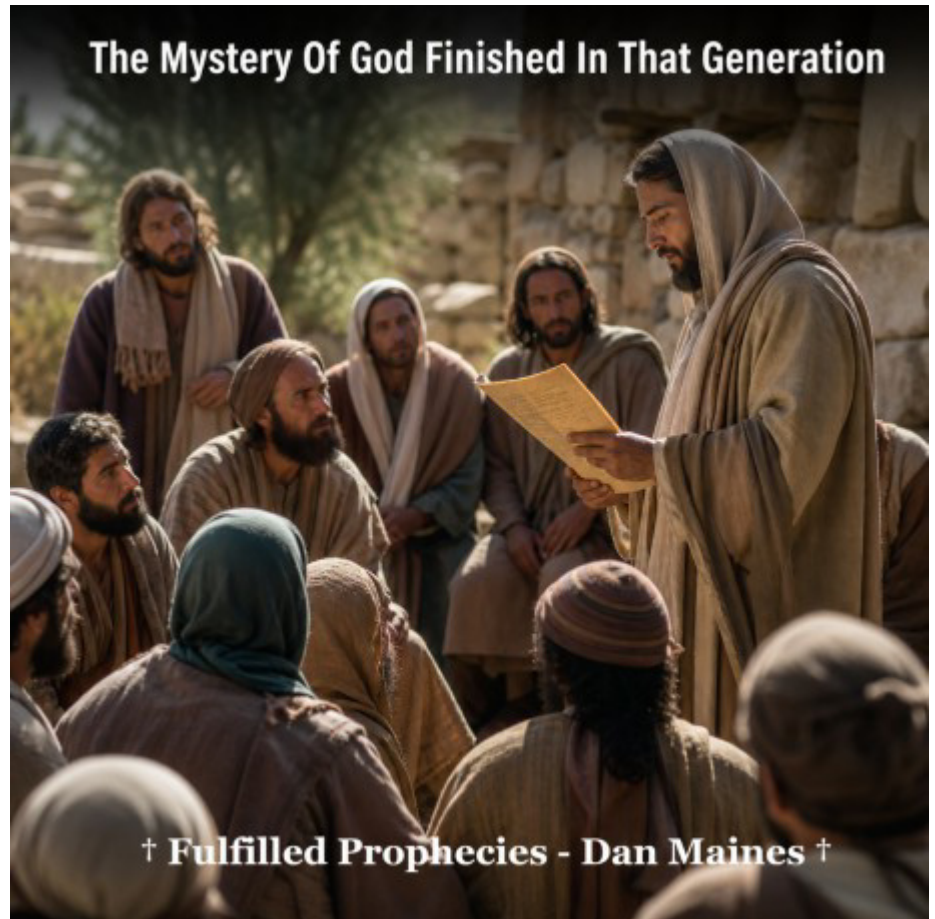


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The Mystery Of God Finished In That Generation



By Dan Maines

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Introduction

† From the beginning, God revealed His plan in pieces, hidden in shadows, types, and promises, but it was never meant to remain hidden forever (Ephesians 1:9-10)

† The prophets spoke of something coming, something greater than Israel alone, but they didn't see the full picture clearly (1 Peter 1:10-12)

† What was once hidden is called the mystery, and the Bible tells us plainly that this mystery was not waiting thousands of

years, it was being revealed and finished in their generation (Revelation 10:7)

Revelation 10:7

but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He announced to His servants the prophets.

† John was told the mystery of God was about to be finished, not delayed, not postponed, but nearing completion in his time (Revelation 1:1, 3)

† The phrase about to be shows imminence, meaning this was something standing at the door, not something thousands of years away (James 5:8-9)

† This mystery was already declared by the prophets, meaning it wasn't a brand new idea, but something hidden that was now reaching its full revealed state (Amos 3:7)

Ephesians 3:3-6

that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before briefly. By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to mankind, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

† Paul tells us exactly what the mystery is, it's not vague, it's not symbolic guesswork, it's the union of Jew and Gentile in one body (Ephesians 2:14-16)

† This mystery was not made known in previous generations, but now has been revealed, meaning Paul and the apostles were living in the time of its unveiling (Colossians 1:26-27)

† The mystery is Christ in you, not just Israel, but the nations brought into the same covenant reality (Galatians 3:28-29)

Romans 16:25-26

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 which has been kept secret for long ages past, but now has been disclosed, and through the Scriptures of the prophets, in accordance with the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;

† Paul says the mystery had been kept silent but now is manifested, not future, not waiting, but revealed in their present time (Colossians 1:25-26)

† It was made known to all nations, showing the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham that all nations would be blessed (Genesis 12:3)

† This is the same mystery John said was about to be finished, meaning the revealing and the finishing were happening in that generation (Matthew 24:34)

Colossians 1:25-27

I was made a minister of this church according to the commission from God granted to me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, that is, the mystery which had been hidden from the past ages and generations, but now has been revealed to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is, the mystery that is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

† Now manifested proves it was already revealed, not future, but present in their time (Colossians 1:26)

† Fulfil the word of God connects directly to the finishing of the mystery, showing completion, not continuation (Revelation 10:7)

† Christ in you shows the result of the mystery, not something coming later, but a present reality (Galatians 2:20)

Matthew 24:34

Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

† All these things includes the completion of God's redemptive plan, not partial fulfillment (Matthew 24:3)

† This generation locks the fulfillment into the first century, not a distant future (Matthew 23:36)

† The mystery being finished must fall within this same timeframe, exactly as Revelation 10:7 declares (Revelation 10:7)

Isaiah 11:10

Then on that day

The nations will resort to the root of Jesse,
Who will stand as a signal flag for the peoples;
And His resting place will be glorious.

† The nations seeking Christ shows Gentile inclusion was always part of God's plan (Isaiah 49:6)

† This proves the mystery was hidden, not absent, waiting to be revealed (Romans 16:25)

† Its fulfillment confirms the mystery was completed, not postponed, aligning with Revelation 10:7 (Revelation 10:7)

The Wow Moment

† The entire Bible was building toward one reality, not multiple future fulfillments, not a delayed plan, but one unified purpose brought to completion (Ephesians 1:10)

† From Abraham to the prophets, from the law to Christ, everything pointed to the bringing together of Jew and Gentile into one body (Isaiah 49:6)

† What was hidden is now revealed, what was promised is now fulfilled, and what was about to be finished was completed in their generation (John 19:30)

Historical References

† Irenaeus wrote that the apostles received the full revelation of God's plan and preached it openly to all nations, showing the mystery was no longer hidden (Against Heresies, Book 3; Matthew 28:19-20)

† Eusebius recorded that the gospel spread rapidly through all nations before the destruction of Jerusalem, demonstrating the fulfillment of the revealed mystery (Ecclesiastical History, Book

3; Colossians 1:23)

† Clement of Alexandria taught that the knowledge of God once hidden was made fully known through Christ and His apostles (Stromata, Book 5; Ephesians 3:5)

† Josephus described the massive turning of events in Judea and the end of the old system, aligning with the time the mystery reached completion (Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Hebrews 8:13)

How It Applies To Us Today

† We are not waiting for the mystery to be revealed, we are living in the reality that was already revealed and finished (Ephesians 3:9-11)

† There is no separation between Jew and Gentile, we are one body in Christ, fully reconciled and established (Ephesians 2:19)

† Our identity is rooted in a completed work, not a future expectation, but a present reality in Christ (Colossians 2:10)

Q & A Appendix

Q What exactly is the mystery of God?

A The mystery is the bringing together of Jew and Gentile into one body in Christ, fully revealed through the gospel (Ephesians 3:3-6)

Q Was the mystery still hidden after the apostles?

A No, it was revealed in their time and made known to all nations (Romans 16:25-26)

Q Does Revelation 10:7 teach a future fulfillment?

A No, it says the mystery was about to be finished, showing imminence in John's generation (Revelation 10:7)

Q Are we still waiting for something to be completed?

A No, the mystery has been revealed and finished, and we now live in that completed reality (Colossians 1:26-27)

Q Why do people still think the mystery is future?

A Because they ignore that Scripture says now revealed and about to be finished, replacing clear timing with tradition (Romans 16:26; Revelation 10:7)

Q What does it mean that the mystery was hidden in past ages?

A It means the prophets spoke of it, but didn't see its full form, it was concealed until the time of Christ and the apostles (Colossians 1:26; 1 Peter 1:10-12)

Q Does the mystery include the Old Covenant system continuing today?

A No, the mystery replaced the old separation, bringing Jew and Gentile into one new man, ending the old system (Ephesians 2:14-15; Hebrews 8:13)

Q How do we know the mystery was finished and not just revealed?

A Because Revelation says it was about to be finished, and Paul says it was already revealed, showing both the revealing and completion happened in that same generation (Revelation 10:7; Romans 16:26)

Q What role did the destruction of Jerusalem play in this?

A It marked the full end of the Old Covenant system, proving the mystery of one unified people was complete (Luke 21:22; Hebrews 9:8)

Q Does this mean God has one people now instead of two?

A Yes, there is one body, one new man, not Jew and Gentile separated, but fully united in Christ (Ephesians 2:16; Ephesians 4:4)

Q Was the gospel already preached to all nations in their time?

A Yes, Scripture says it was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, showing the mission tied to the mystery was completed (Colossians 1:23; Matthew 24:14)

Q Why is Revelation 10:7 so important?

A Because it declares the finishing of the mystery, not its beginning, proving the climax of God's plan was imminent in John's day (Revelation 10:7; Revelation 1:1)

Q Does the finished mystery affect how we read prophecy today?

A Yes, it shows prophecy pointed to a completed work, not an ongoing or future fulfillment still waiting (Ephesians 1:10; Luke 24:44)

Q What does Christ in you actually mean?

A It means God's presence is now in His people, not confined to a temple, fulfilling the promise of full access and union (Colossians 1:27; 1 Corinthians 3:16)

Q Are we still in a transition period today?

A No, the transition ended when the mystery was finished and the old system passed away (Hebrews 8:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Revelation 10:7; Ephesians 3:3-6; Romans 16:25-26; Colossians 1:25-27; Matthew 24:34; Isaiah 11:10; Ephesians 2:14-16; Colossians 1:26-27; Galatians 3:28-29; Genesis 12:3; Matthew 23:36; Isaiah 49:6; John 19:30; Ephesians 3:9-11; Ephesians 2:19; Colossians 2:10; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 8:13
† Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 3; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Clement of Alexandria, Stromata, Book 5; Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6

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