

Ephesians: From Death to Life  
The Mystery Revealed  
Ephesians 3:1-13

The concept of evolution in our culture has grown well beyond Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species*. Evolution isn't just about biology anymore. Even the social sciences are trying to explain human interactions and relationships through theories of evolution, as if we need evolution to explain why a mother will naturally love and care for her newborn baby.

1. A Christ-centered missionary follows the will of Christ.
2. A Christ-centered missionary understands the message of Christ.
3. A Christ-centered missionary is overwhelmed by grace.
4. A Christ-centered missionary proclaims the incalculable riches of Christ.
5. A Christ-centered missionary has a high view of Christ's church.
6. A Christ-centered missionary draws near to God through Christ.

The good news is that we don't have to decipher some hidden code to proclaim the truth of the gospel. The story is written plainly in history for all who are willing to read it. Our theology may expand as we study the endless depths of the truths of Scripture, but the nature and character of Christ and His gospel do not evolve. They have been revealed, and they have been revealed in such a way that when it truly impacts our hearts, we have no choice but to proclaim it.

Reflection

How would you explain to someone the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament? How should the realization that what was once a mystery has now been revealed stir your affections for Christ? What emotion or call to action do you sense as a result of the revelation of the mystery of the gospel? Do you believe that you are strategically placed in a church for a particular purpose? How should that realization guide our efforts to find a church family? How is the purpose of the church (the advancement of the gospel) displayed in your personal life? Who are the people in your spheres of influence to whom God is calling you to share your story? What actions can you take to create opportunities to proclaim the mysteries of the gospel? If the church is a trophy case of God's grace and wisdom (and I believe it is) then how will that idea affect your attitude about participating together in worship on Sunday?