

STEWARDS OF GOD'S MYSTERIES

1. God's ministers/ambassadors are to be found faithful in identifying and teaching God's Mysteries, as the Spirit gives the understanding; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Ephesians 6:19-20
2. God's Mysteries include truths, secrets and hidden things which are discovered by divine revelation. They are made known in a manner and in a time that is appointed by God; John 16:12-13; Revelation 10:7
3. The wisdom of God is revealed in a Mystery; 1 Corinthians 2:7
4. God's Mysteries are revealed to disciples, not the multitudes; Matthew 13:10-17

Biblical Mysteries Include:

1. The Mystery Of The Kingdom Of God – Matthew 13:11; Mark 4:11-12
- refers to the glorious Kingdom truths being revealed to, and understood by disciples
2. The Mystery Of The Church – Ephesians 3:1-6; 5:30-32
- Jesus and His Church portray a marriage: a people who are in a spiritual union with Christ, as a husband is joined to his wife, as a Body is joined to the Head
3. The Mystery Of The Gospel – Ephesians 6:19
- the grace of God is revealed through the preaching; 1 Cor. 1:21, teaching and disclosure of the “good news”, which includes basic doctrines of the faith, the full counsel of God
4. The Mystery Of The Faith - 1 Timothy 3:9; Romans 16:25
- reveals justification by faith, the truths of salvation, including the book of Romans: “The Roman Road To Salvation”, which Paul calls “my gospel”
5. The Mystery Of Godliness – 1 Timothy 3:16
- this is the secret of an imparted life: “Christ in you, the hope of glory”; Col. 1:27, which enables the believer to live a victorious Christian life in the midst of a fallen world
6. The Mystery Of His Will – Ephesians 1:9
- God's will and plan of Redemption for man, has been kept secret since the world began, but is now being disclosed and made manifest by the Holy Spirit; Romans 16:25-26
7. The Mystery Of The Restoration Of Israel - Romans 11:25
- spiritual blindness is upon a portion of Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in; Acts 15:14; Jews and Gentiles together are the “Israel” of God; Galatians 6:16; Eph. 2:15
8. The Mystery Of The Indwelling Christ - Colossians 1:26-27
- this is Christ living within us, by His Spirit, which gives assurance of future glory and eternal life; the riches of His grace and treasures of His wisdom; Ephesians 1:7; 3:8
9. The Mystery Of Iniquity (Lawlessness) – 2 Thessalonians 2:7
- the behind-the-scenes activity of seductive, evil powers at work throughout the course of human history, preparing the way for the apostasy and the man of sin
10. The Mystery Of The Rapture – 1 Corinthians 15:51-55
- when Jesus Christ returns from Heaven for His church, saints who are alive will have their bodies transformed, and made imperishable and immortal
11. The Mystery Of The Seven Stars And Seven Golden Candlesticks - Revelation 1:20
- the seven stars are angels or pastors (which have oversight of the churches), and the seven candlesticks are the churches described in Revelation, chapters 2-3
12. The Mystery of Babylon The Great – Revelation 17:5-7, 18
- the ungodly religious, political, economic world system, which reigns over kings of the Earth; it includes the abominations of Babylon's practices and apostate Christianity

THE MYSTERY OF THE TWELVE SONS OF JACOB - A Prophetic Pattern

A. Twelve is the number of God's divine government. There are **12 Gates** into God's City upon which are written NAMES of the 12 Tribes of Israel; Revelation 21:9-27.

1. A Gate is an entrance into God's City. **Every gate is a pearl.** It is symbolic of wisdom, or that which is costly and valuable; Matthew 7:6; 13:44-46

a. A pearl is formed around a grain of sand, or foreign substance, which becomes an "irritant" in the oyster. The "Word" lodged within us is the "seed of another Kingdom", it is foreign to our old nature. And like an oyster, in response to the "irritant" within, a substance is secreted, layer by layer, creating a lustrous pearl. That which begins with pain, irritation or tension produces a valuable gem, when obedience is complete.

b. Pearls are costly; there was a price that was paid for them to be produced. We are gradually "pressed" into His likeness through great pressure, difficulty, tribulation, denial of self, seeking the will of God. His nature and character must be developed within us.

B. Jacob was CREATED but Israel was FORMED; Isaiah 43:1; Genesis 32:24-30
This is the birth order of Jacob's 12 sons and the meanings of their names as listed in Genesis 49:2-28. This reveals God's nature and attributes unfolding in those who are called the sons of God. Jesus Christ is the Firstborn among many brethren, of those who will come forth to full stature, into His image; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:13

1. Reuben – "behold a son"
2. Simeon – "hearing"
3. Levi – "joined, union"
4. Judah – "praise"
5. Dan – "righteous judgment"
6. Naphtali – "wrestlings, struggle"
7. Gad – "a troop, a company cometh"
8. Asher – "happy, blessed"
9. Issachar – "man for hire, reward"
10. Zebulun – "habitation, dwelling"
11. Joseph – "Jehovah shall add, increaser"
12. Benjamin – "son of the right hand"

These Names Together Reveal A Prophetic Declaration Of The SON (Head and Body):

1. Behold, My SON
2. He shall HEAR My voice and obey it
3. He shall be completely JOINED and UNITED unto Me in will and purpose
4. He shall bring PRAISE to Me and cause others to worship in spirit and in truth
5. I will make Him a JUDGE over all
6. He will STRUGGLE, but this warrior shall WRESTLE with evil and overcome it
7. He shall bring forth a Firstborn COMPANY, He shall lead a TROOP in victory
8. Who will be BLESSED and favored of Me
9. And they shall be My REWARD
10. I will make them My HABITATION, My DWELLING place
11. Great shall be their INCREASE and FRUITFULNESS
12. He (the Head and Body) shall be called the SON of My RIGHT HAND and shall reign forever

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