

## “The Kingdom of God!”

### Part 21: “‘Mystery’ Revealed!”

Ephesians 1:15-23, 2:11-22, 3:1-21;  
Romans 11:1-36



Introduction: In using the word, “*ekklesia*,” God is saying that the Church is a “called - out assembly.”

**Hebrews 12:22-23:** “You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, ... and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven!”

The very existence of the human race and of this planet today revolves around GOD’s purpose in the Church !

**God accomplishes His purposes in the “Church age” by bringing Jews and Gentiles together into one Body in Christ.**

God’s purpose in creating this world and in creating the human race is and always has been His own GLORY !

### I. God’s purpose BEFORE the Church age: To bring glory to Himself!

**Genesis 1-11** contains approximately 2,000 years of human history, from Adam to Noah to Abraham .

During this time the human race, now blinded by sinful rebellion against God, would not and could not praise the God who created them.

God’s call to Abram in Genesis 12 began the next phase of God’s plan: the creation of a “chosen people,” a “chosen nation.”

God identifies Himself throughout the Old Testament and into the New Testament as the God of Abraham , Isaac and Jacob .

God revealed Himself ONLY to this people throughout the Old Testament, with but few exceptions.

Yet God’s promise was that through Abraham God would gather a remnant from every people, tribe, nation and tongue for His glory.

### II. God’s purpose IN the Church age: to bring glory to Himself!

**Ephesians 1:3-14:** “ ... according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace ”, “ ... for the praise of His glory ”, “... to the praise of His glory ” (vss. 6,12,14).

**Ephesians 1:15-23:** “He put all things under His feet and gave Him as Head over all things to the Church , ... His Body ... ” (vss. 22-23).

**Ephesians 2:11-22:** “For through Him we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access in one Spirit to the Father ” (vs. 18).

In the Church age God is bringing Jews and Gentiles together into ONE Body , the CHURCH, the “called-out assembly.”

**Ephesians 3:1-6:** “This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs , members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel” (vs. 6; see also Romans 4:16-25; Galatians 3:7-9).

**Ephesians 3:10-13:** “ ... so that through the Church the manifold wisdom of God might be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places” (vs. 10).

**Ephesians 3:14-21:** “ ... to HIM be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. AMEN!” (vs. 21).

**“We exist to proclaim the reign of Jesus Christ over all things; glorifying and enjoying God, now and forever!”**

### III. God’s purpose AFTER the Church age: to bring glory to Himself!

**Romans 11:1:** “Has God rejected His people?” NO !!!!

**Romans 11:11-12, 25-29:** “As regards election , they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and calling of GOD are irrevocable” (vss. 28-29).

If you focus on the human race as the center of the universe rather than GOD your mind will always be thinking about what God can do for YOU rather than what you are called to do for HIM!

God declares that every true follower of Jesus Christ is part of the one true Church , this “called-out assembly.”

Are YOU, by faith, part of God’s “chosen communion” in Christ Jesus???