

“MYSTERY OF CHRIST”

Ephesians Chapter Three

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

- Written during Paul's first imprisonment in Rome.
- Teach about the church in God's eternal plan of salvation.
- The first three chapters is theological.
- The last three chapters is practical.

THE CHURCH

- Entrusted with the Mystery of Christ (Eph. 3:1-6)
- Equipped with the Power of God (Eph. 3:7-13)
- Enveloped with the Love of God (Eph. 3:14-21)

“THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST”

The Gentiles are **HEIRS** together with Israel

(Romans 4:13, 16)

ROMANS 4:13, 16

It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be **heir** of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

Therefore, the promise comes **by faith**, so that it may be **by grace** and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are **of the faith** of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

“THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST”

The Gentiles are **MEMBERS** of one body

(1 Corinthians 12:13)

1 CORINTHIANS 12:13

For we were all baptized by one Spirit
into **one body** –
whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free –
and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

“THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST”

The Gentiles are **SHARERS** together
in the promise of Christ Jesus

(Colossians 1:12-14)

COLOSSIANS 1:12-14

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to **share** in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

GENESIS 12:2-3

“I will make you into **a great nation**

and I will **bless** you;

I will make your name great

and you will be a **blessing**.

I will bless those who bless you,

and whoever curses you I will curse;

And **all peoples on earth** will be **blessed** through you.’

THE CRUX OF THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

“People who have never heard of God and those who have heard of him all their lives stand on the same ground before God and get same offer, same help, same promises in Christ Jesus.”

ENTRUSTED WITH THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

Paul was in prison

- because he preached Christ
- because he preached to the Gentiles

MATTHEW 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of **ALL NATIONS**,

baptizing them in the name of the Father

and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

and teaching them to obey everything

I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

EQUIPPED WITH THE POWER OF GOD

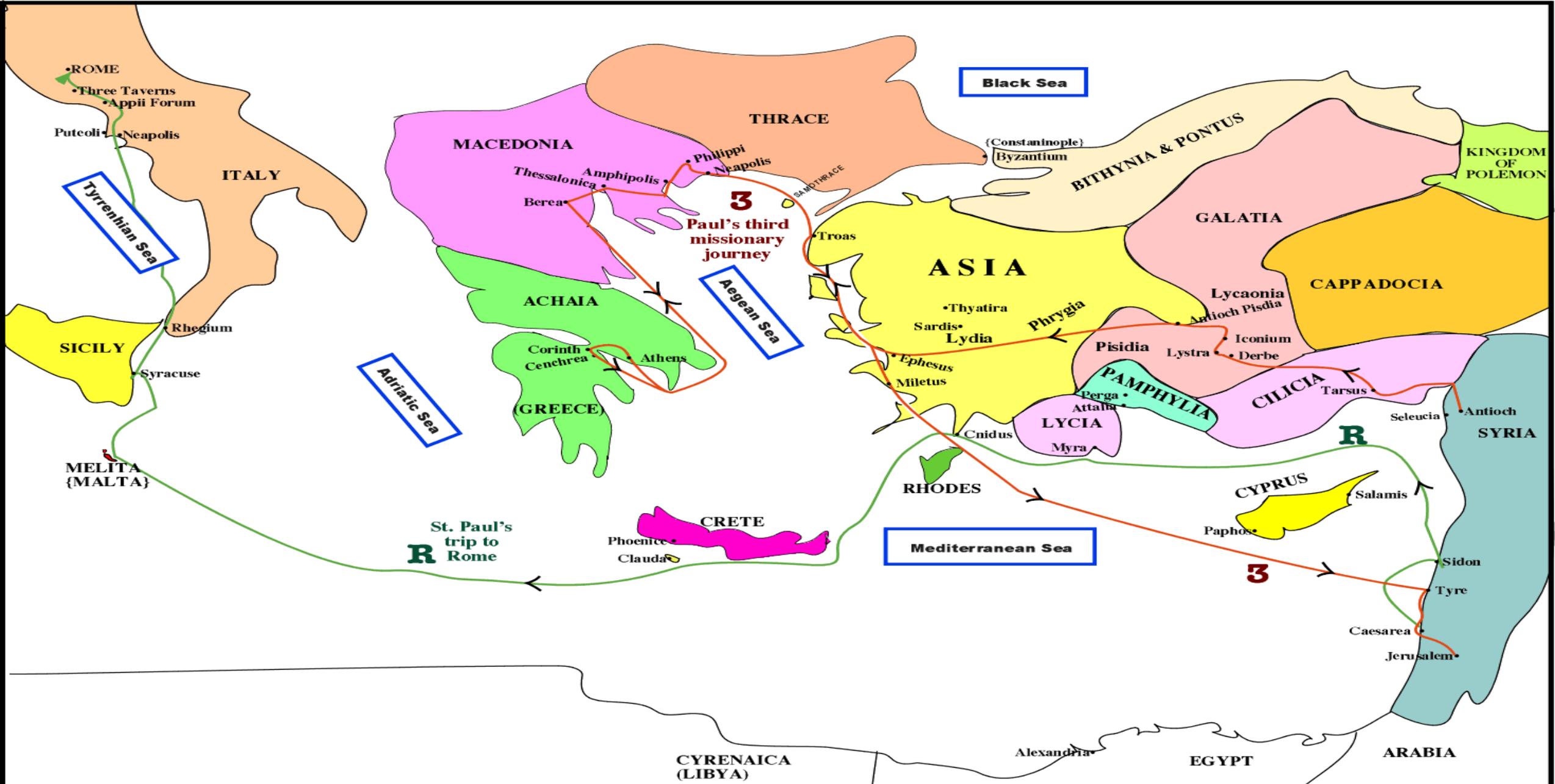
- It was God's grace that Paul was entrusted with the mystery of Christ
- It is God's intent to demonstrate his salvation plan through the church

Acts 1: 8

But you will **receive power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you;

and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.





NEW TESTAMENT ACTS MAP
Paul's last two Journeys

— Paul third journey (53-58 A.D.)
 — Paul's trip to Rome (58-62 A.D.)

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THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE

But God demonstrates his own **love** for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Roman 5:8

1 JOHN 3:1

How **great is the love**

the Father has lavished on us,
that we should be called children of God!

And that is what we are!

THE CHURCH IS ESTABLISHED IN LOVE

And hope does not disappoint us,
because **God has poured out his love**
into our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
whom he has given us.

Roman 5:5

LOVE OF GOD PROPELS AND COMPELS US

WITHOUT LOVE IT IS DIFFICULT
TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

WITHOUT LOVE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL
BECOMES MERELY
A HEARTLESS DUTY AND
A JOYLESS RESPONSIBILITY.

THE POWER AND LOVE OF GOD

Now to him who is **able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,** according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

CONCLUSION

Remember we are entrusted with the gospel
to share with all people.

Even as we are entrusted, God also empowers us
to share the gospel.

With our hearts enveloped with God's love,
it propels us to share the gospel.