



Ephesians 3:1-13
Blue Bible pg 1242

EPHESIANS

Strength, Friends, and Armor for the Fight

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EVERYONE LOVES A GOOD MYSTERY

EPHESIANS

Ephesians 3:1-13^{ESV}

¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known

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**to me by revelation, as I have written
briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can
perceive my insight into the mystery of
Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to
the sons of men in other generations
as it has now been revealed to his**

Ephesians 3:1-13^{ESV}

holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.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.⁷ Of this gospel I was made a

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minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of

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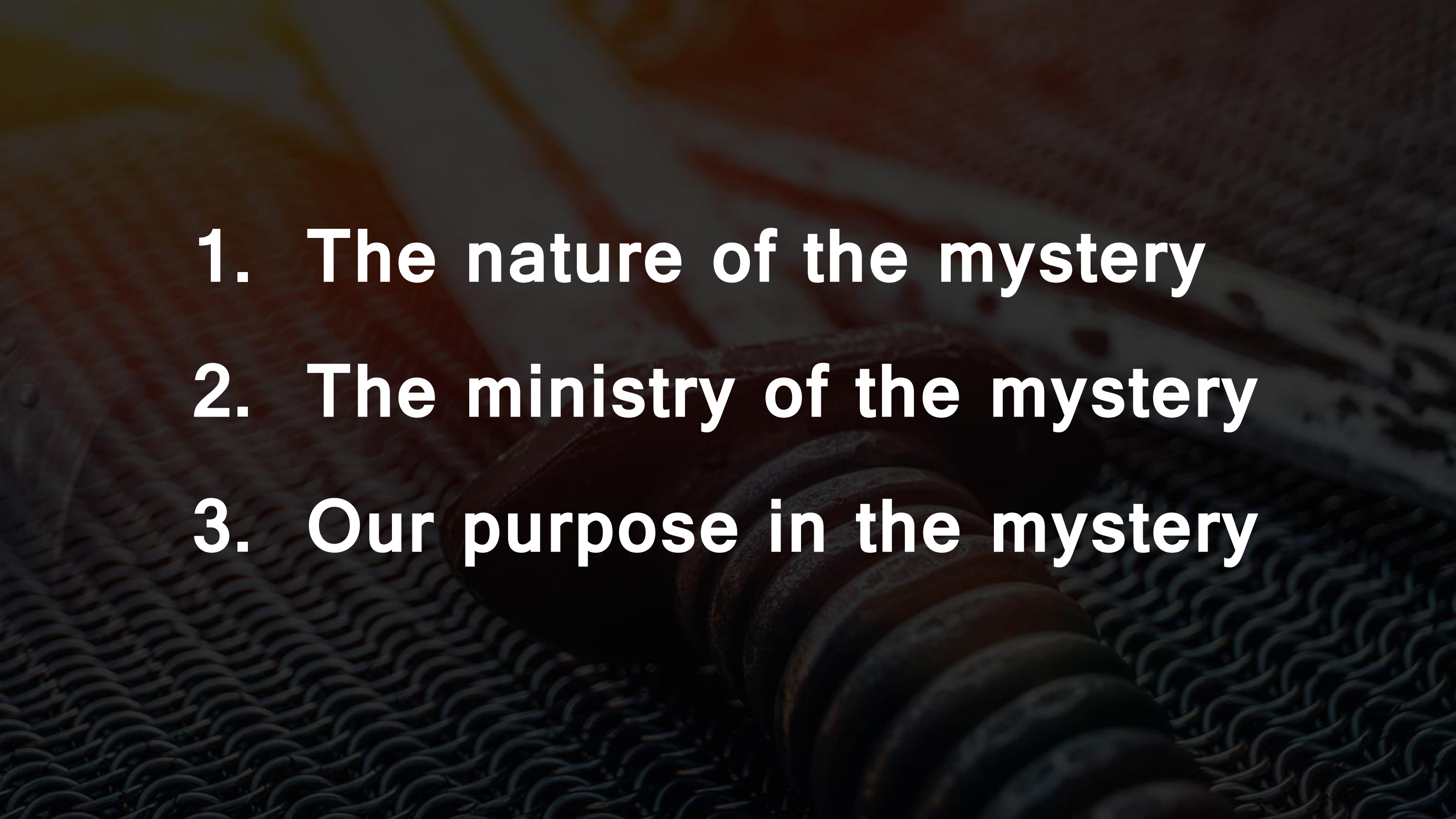
Christ,⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made

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known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through

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our faith in him. ¹³ So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

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- 1. The nature of the mystery**
 - 2. The ministry of the mystery**
 - 3. Our purpose in the mystery**

“It is as if a great drama is being enacted. History is the theatre, the world is the stage, and church members in every land are the actors. God himself has written the play, and he directs and produces it. Act by act,

scene by scene, the story continues to unfold. But who are the audience? They are the cosmic intelligences, the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. We are to think of them as spectators of the drama of

*salvation. Thus 'the history of the
Christian church becomes a graduate
school for angels'."*

- John Stott

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