Prophecy and Mystery

"...when ye read, ye may understand... the mystery of Christ..." - Eph 3:4

1. The prophets spoke of Christ

- a. Her seed shall bruise thy head (Gen 3:15)
- b. A virgin shall conceive... (Is 7:14)
- c. The Lord said unto my Lord (Ps 110:1)
- d. His throne for ever (1 Chr 17:11-12)
- e. The death, burial, resurrection of Christ (Is 53:5, 8, Ps 16:10)
- f. The redeemer spoken of by all the Holy prophets (Lk 1:70, 24:44)

2. The mystery of Christ was kept secret

- a. The mystery of Christ regards things kept secret about Christ (Rom 16:25, Eph 3:8)
- b. A Head and a body (Col 1:18)
- c. A new creature, old things are passed, incl. how we know Christ (Eph 2:15, 16, 2 Cor 5:16-17)
- d. Hid in God, not the prophets (Eph 3:9)
- e. Revealed to one as a pattern (Acts 9:15, 26:16-18)
- f. Kept secret until the right time (1 Cor 2:6-8)

Rom 9:4-5, Rom 15:8

3. Things that are different

| Prophecy Concerns | Mystery Concerns |
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| The rise and rebirth of the nation of Israel | A new creature, the body of Christ |
| Dan 2:44, Mt 6:10 | 1 Cor 12:12, 27, |
| God's purpose concerning the earth | God's purpose concerning the heavens |
| Jer 23:5, Mt 5:5, Ps 37:11 | Eph 1:3, 2:5-6 |
| Christ as King of Israel | Christ as Head of the body |
| Is 9:6-7, Jer 23:5 | Eph 1:22-23, Col 2:19 |
| Prophesied/spoken "since the world began" | Kept secret "since the world began" |
| Acts 3:21 | Rom 16:25 |
| Gentiles blessed through Israel's rise | Gentiles blessed without Israel |
| Gen 12:2-3, Zech 8:13 | Acts 28:28, Rom 11:11, Eph 2:15 |
| Christ's coming to the earth | Christ's absence from the earth |
| Is 59:20, Zec 14:3-4, 9 | Eph 1:20-23, 2 Pt 3:15-16 |
| Salvation yet future | Salvation now |
| 1 Pt 1:5, 9, Acts 3:19 | 1 Cor 1:18, 1 Cor 15:2, Eph 2:5 |
| Jesus Confirmed Promises | Jesus Revealed a Mystery |

Col 1:27, Eph 2:12, 3:3