



## *Wells of Salvation Ministries*

Sermon Outline 5

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### **“A Great Mystery”**

Scripture – I Timothy 3:16

Text – I Timothy 3:16

**Introduction:** We are living in an age of miracles and mysteries. I can't understand the how's or wherefore's of the working of the telephone, cell phones, radio, television, digital satellite communications, the internet, nanotechnology, computers, modern medical wonders, the atomic bomb, or weapons of modern warfare. I don't understand these scientific wonders, yet they exist. To some, perhaps, these things are no mysteries at all – they understand them. However, the greatest blessing to descend upon the human race, while widely received and appreciated, remains a mystery to all. “Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness.” Christ is this great mystery.

### **I. Manifest in the Flesh**

1. God
  - A. Took part in creation
  - B. Walked with Adam
  - C. Walked with Enoch
  - D. Gave Decalogue to Moses
  - E. Watched over creation during time of Law
  - F. From everlasting to everlasting
2. Man
  - A. Why identify self eternally with creature
  - B. How incarnation could be

### **II. Justified in the Spirit**

1. By Spirit at Resurrection
  - A. Romans 1:4 -- “And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”
  - B. God's seal of approval upon sinless life and sacrificial death
  - C. I Corinthians 15:17 – If Christ is not justified in resurrection, neither are we justified... – yet in our sins.
  - D. How can this be?
    - a. Mystery to be accepted
    - b. Because He lives, we live

### **III. Seen of Angels**

1. In Heaven
2. In stable
3. In wilderness

4. In Gethsemane
5. At tomb
6. At ascension
7. Daily in presence of
8. Sends angels to us

#### **IV. Preached unto the Gentiles** (Matthew 4:13-16)

1. Those in darkness -- Have seen great light
2. Those afar off -- Have been brought nigh
3. Strangers – Can be citizens of Heaven
4. Dogs – Can be God's lambs
5. A great transition
  - A. Jewish attitude
  - B. Peter
  - C. Paul

#### **V. Believed on in the World**

1. Rejected by many
  - A. Church leaders
  - B. Civil authorities – Jews, Gentiles
  - C. Mob – Counterparts in each generation
2. Believed on
  - A. In land patrolled by demons
  - B. Disciples
  - C. 120
  - D. Early Church
  - E. Faithful few in Dark Ages
  - F. Reformers
  - G. Wesley
  - H. Men today
    - In spite of oppression, persecution
    - In face of adverse circumstances

#### **VI. Received up into Glory**

1. After earthly ministry
2. After death, resurrection
3. Contrary to law of gravity
4. In glory and power He watches over His people
5. We are joint heirs with Christ -- We, too, shall be received up into Glory

**Conclusion:** Great is the mystery of godliness: I can't understand it, but I can enjoy it now and understand it better by and by. Don't let a lack of understanding keep you from the blessings of salvation. Ride the street car of reason to the end of the line, then transfer to the bus of faith, for it will take you to the door step of your mansion in the sky!