

The Central Glory

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Timothy 3:16.

B. God lives and dwells among His people, and they are His possessor and channel of the truth.

II. Great is the mystery.

A. This does not mean that it is obscure—it means that it is of supreme importance.

B. The Bible is the most important book in the world because it reveals the mysteries about life—especially the mind of God.

III. The mystery of our religion.

A. Religion refers to “goodliness” or wholeness.

B. Jesus is the secret of wholeness.

1. He was manifest in flesh.

a. He appeared as a normal human being.

b. However, He had a daily beauty that made us ugly. (John 1)

2. He was inwardly justified in His human spirit.

a. Justified means made righteous.

b. There was a continual witness that Jesus was fully acceptable to God.

c. The secret of the life of Jesus was His relationship to God.

3. He was seen by angels and preached among the nations.

a. The angels beheld the glory of Christ.

b. Only men however were able to share Christ.

C. Everywhere this good news was being preached, change came to communities.

1. In Jesus, there is power to lay hold of all the possibilities of life.

2. This is true no matter how godless we have become.

D. Jesus was taken up in glory, which is the explanation of transformed lives that followed.

1. One begins to find himself when he finds Jesus.
2. This is the central fact of history.
3. Jesus is the secret of daily life.

Application questions:

1. How is Jesus the secret of wholeness?

2. If Jesus was justified, does it mean that He was not right with God beforehand? Explain.

3. If angels who were messengers of God's truth could not preach the gospel, how ought believers respond to their stewardship of spreading the good news? How can you respond personally?
