ANGELS DESIRE TO KNOW
Eph. 3:10-13

INTRODUCTION:

First section - V. 1-8 - Paul speaks of the mystery - Gentiles are to be fellow heirs. V. 7 - I was made a minister, given a special revelation, a stewardship and distributorship of the mystery.


Paul felt like this about the mystery.

Next - God's purpose in revealing the mystery: That the spiritual realm may see God's love and power."

V. 10-13.

This is the purpose of the revelation. That there might be made known now to the principalities, rulerships, and to the authorities.

This is not limited to earth, it is to the whole created order. Through the church.

This stewardship is entrusted to the church. Thus use of the church is not an afterthought. It is according to "the plan of the ages". Plan -- laid down
beforehand. This plan was formed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We have boldness. This is our reaction to the bold plan to use the church as the continuing embodiment of Christ. Boldness -- all speaking, or freedom of speech.

V. 13 - Don't feel bad, for this is just your glory. We all have a part in it.

We even enlighten the angels through the church. We are to help the universe know God.

This idea is astonishing, almost unbelievable that the angels in Heaven are taught the wisdom of God by the church.

The church a pedagogue to angels -- instructed by the church. Explains difficult things to the angels.

The church turns the key and Gentiles come in angels learn as the Kingdom develops.

When church work stops -- then the glory stops.

Did God ever intend for the church to stop? If he did, why did he say "Lo I am with you unto the end of the world?" You are still teachers.
Think of the angels' high exalted position.

I. ANGELS AT THE CREATION OF THE WORLD

Astonished at what God was doing. Firmament - arches of the sky. Job - morning stars sang together, sons of God rejoiced when made world.

Adam was made - angels looked on. Eve created to walk by his side.

Angels not learn the manifold wisdom of God. They learn God's wisdom in the church.

Exalted ideas of the church - they learn how God saves men, redemptive grace.

I Peter 1:12 - Peter referred to this when he said, "And of these things the angels desired to look into."

What did the angels learn as they look upon the church?

First - Learn God's plan of Salvation.

Watch as God saves fallen men and learn his plan of Salvation. Lucifer sinned and is cast out.

Samson, strongest man in the world -- sinned said, "God let me die with the Philistines" and he did.
David, the man after God's heart sinned. God said "The sword shall never leave Thy house" and it did not. The story of David is written in blood.

God is just - merciful - gracious - forgiving.

Christ pays the penalty for our sin thus upholding the righteousness of God, yet showing mercy, dying in love for fallen souls.

Angels looked on this must have been astonished!

What we lost in first Adam in Eden in sin - we gained man in second Adam - Christ.

The cross restores the New Jerusalem. Goliath is slain by his own sword.
In Adam all die, in Christ all made alive.

Angels rejoice in Heaven when a lost sinner comes back to the Lord. Did you ever think upon that?

In Glory watching over us, looking at us, and the angels are attending the church services.

When someone comes down the aisle and gives his heart to Jesus, there is
rejoicing in Heaven. Angels are learning in the church and rejoicing in the church.

Acts 9. The story of Paul - threatening and attempting slaughter against the church. Suddenly he was struck down by the glory of the presence of Christ. As he approached Damascus, led by the hand now, this proud and bitter Pharisee has been blinded by the glory of God.

Inside Damascus the Lord appeared to Ananias and said, "Go into the street which is called straight and inquire -- for one soul of Tharsus -- for behold he prayeth."

This proud blaspheming man is now down on his knees praying, confessing, asking God to forgive the chief of sinners.

It is a miracle. It is a glory and it happens every day. It is something that the angels are introduced to in the church, the manifold wisdom of God.

Second - Angels learn of God's preparations for the coming of Christ.

Watched the development of years preparation for the coming of the Redeemer.

Abraham entertained those angels unwares. Angel stopped his hand, saved Isaac. Angel went to Jacob in his sleep at Bethel, ascended and descended the ladder -- leaned against the throne of Heaven.
Angels announced the coming of the Saviour at Bethlehem.

Angels rolled away the stone announced - "He is risen!"

Angels watched him ascend into Heaven.

Third - Angels watch God's building of His church: They watch the building up of the boy of Christ here on this earth - Temple made without hands.

Living stones are added to the building - what kind of building is it, Gothic - Grecian - No!

A temple rising after the pattern shown to Moses on the Mount like the Sanctuary. This is in Heaven.

In that glorious Temple called the church, the house of God, the Lord himself dwells and He teaches us and the angels -- we learn together - they come to know.

One passage in the Bible astonishes me in 1 Cor. 11. Paul says, women ought to dress a certain way because of the angels. How ought they to dress?

Our conduct, deportment, presentation -- that the angels are there when you come to church. Do you ever think of that?

They are, they listen, they learn, we teach them as we respond to the Gospel.
All of life is like that -- A man looks through a telescope, etc. Angels look and see.

Fourth - Angels learn to know us.

They learn in the church God's plan of salvation. God's love and they see us. Watch us praise God and his presence in trials.

Three lads in fiery furnace. King looks - I see a fourth, his countenance, is like the Son of God."

Angels look on this when we go through fiery trials - comfort of God.

There must be a guardian angel who watches over us as children and even now!

Bible says angels come for us when we lay down this mortal life. They bear our souls to Glory.

My latest sun is sinking fast,
My race is nearly run;
My strongest trials now are past,
My triumph is begun.
O come, Angel band,
Come and around me stand.

Oh, bear me away on your snowy wings
to my immortal home,
Oh, bear me away on your snowy wings
to my immortal home.

Do you believe that? God says it is so. Angels look upon our sufferings
and they learn we trust God through them.

When we finally lay the burden down, the angels are there to bear us up to
Heaven, to carry us into Glory.

How precious we need to learn more of thee in order to teach more to angels.