

MYSTERIES

LESSON 2

BEFORE THE BEGINNING

Do you know what a mystery is?

Something that is difficult or impossible to explain.

Can you think of any mysteries?

1. God has no beginning.

2. The *nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery*. Man cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to him. (*AA*, p. 52)

3. There is a mystery that was kept secret since the world began, but Paul was given the ministry to make this mystery manifest (Romans 16:25, 26 and *AA*, p. 159), the *mystery of God's will* (Ephesians 1:9) and the *mystery of Christ* (Ephesians 3:5-11).

4. Behold, I shew you a *mystery*; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

(1 Corinthians 15:51, 52)

5. There is the *mystery of iniquity*,

(2 Thessalonians 2:7)

6. And the *mystery of life*, not just our own, but life in all nature.

He [Satan] loves to see human misery. He exults in distress, and as we view the cruel persecutions of those who would obey God according to the dictates of their own consciences, we may know that this is the *mystery of iniquity*. (CTr, p. 322)

7. Even angels have mysteries--“It was a *mystery to angels* that Christ, the Majesty of heaven, should condescend, not only to take upon Himself humanity, but to assume its heaviest burdens and most humiliating offices” (CG, p. 346).

8. Redemption is a mystery.

9. *The mystery of love*--“When we seek for appropriate language in which to describe the love of God, we find words too tame, too weak, too far beneath the theme, and we lay down our pen and say, ‘No, it cannot be described.’ . . . In attempting any description of this love, we feel that we are as infants lisping their first words. Silently we may adore; for silence in this matter is the only eloquence. This love is past all language to describe. It is the *mystery of God in the flesh*, God in Christ, and divinity in humanity” (*CE*, p. 77).

Our lesson talks about something we can't understand, but it is still true. Do you know what it is? That Jesus is both God and man (at the end of Tuesday's lesson).