

WEEK 5: MYSTERY IN THE GOSPEL. 1 TIMOTHY 3:16

1 Tim 3:16 is a short poem that is full of doctrine. It captures the richness of early Christianity in the way it challenged both the popular 'mysteries' and the rule of Caesar.

- He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit,
 "Revealed in the flesh and justified in the spirit!" It is a revelation of God Himself to us. We could never know Him otherwise.
- ...Seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations Translated literally as, "Appeared to angels, announced to Gentiles." Jesus has gone ahead of His people into His Kingdom where He rules and reigns, He will come again and be revealed once more.
- ...Believed on in the world, taken up in glory This is where the earthly and the heavenly stories come together side by side. Jesus is the one who, having been exalted to glory, is already ruling the world as its genuine Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What do you hold as "sacred?"
- Is there anything that was once a mystery to you that you now understand?
- How is the Christian faith still a mystery?
- To what things/people—other than Christ—can we be prone to giving our allegiance?
- In what areas of your life are you feeling called to more deeply surrender to Jesus as Lord?
- How can we live in such a way that we reveal ("announce") who Jesus is?

TODAY'S VERSES:

1 Timothy 3:16 Genesis 3:15 Genesis 12:7 Genesis 13:5

Genesis 24:7 Galatians 3:16 Colossians 2:2-3 Acts 14:11-13