



The Church, A Mystery Part II (Ephesians 3:4-7)


Catholics
Welcome
All Welcome

Elizabeth Pl
NO EXIT

NO
EXIT

Recognize the Name?

Basil Rathbone
(1892 – 1967)





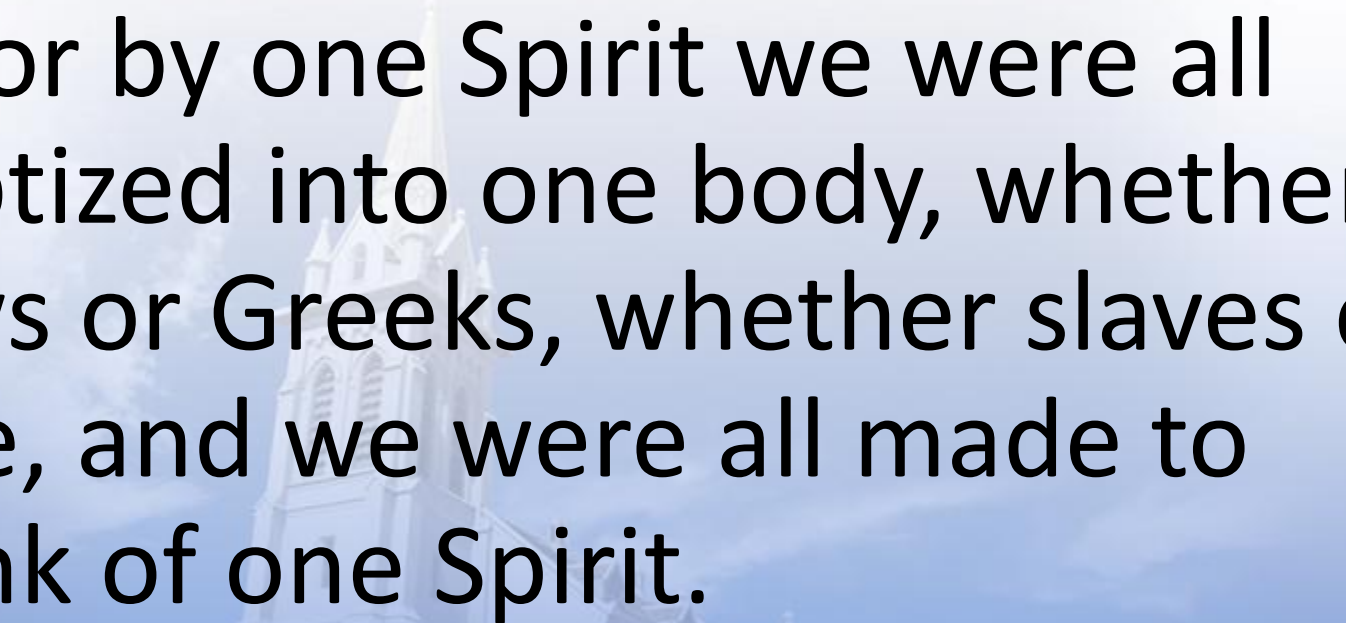


“Something previously unknown
and unknowable apart from
divine revelation.”

– H. Kent

I Corinthians 12:13

¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.



“When Christ appeared, the lights came on clarifying the nature of the Messiah’s death, the fact that Gentiles do not have to become Jews, that Gentiles and Jews have equal access to God, and the degree of nearness one has with God in the new covenant. Now these things have been made known and God’s people should know them and celebrate them!”

– T. Merida

“What is this mystery? Quite clearly, it is that the Gentiles should be made partakers along with the Jews of God’s great blessings in the church. A person might ask how this is new, seeing that the Old Testament referred to God’s purpose to bless the Gentiles. ‘All peoples on earth will be blessed through you’ (Gen. 12:13).

Yet before the coming of Christ it was understood that this was to happen only as the Gentiles became Jews through proselytizing. A Gentile could approach the God of Israel, but only as an Israelite. He had to become a member of the covenant people through the rite of circumcision. The new thing revealed to Paul is that this approach is no longer necessary. Christ has broken down that wall, making one new people out of two previously divided people. So now both Jew and Gentile approach God equally on that basis.” – J. Boice

“The idea of including Gentiles in one body with Jews was the spiritual equivalent of saying that lepers were no longer to be isolated, that they were now perfectly free to intermingle and associate with everyone else as normal members of society. In the minds of most Jews, their spiritual separation from Gentiles was so absolute and so right that the thought of total equality before God was inconceivable and little short of blasphemy.” – M.B.C.

Recognize these Quotes?

“You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have.”

“Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart.”

A black and white portrait of Corrie ten Boom, an elderly woman with short, wavy hair, wearing glasses and smiling. She is wearing a patterned blouse. The background is softly blurred.

Corrie
ten Boom

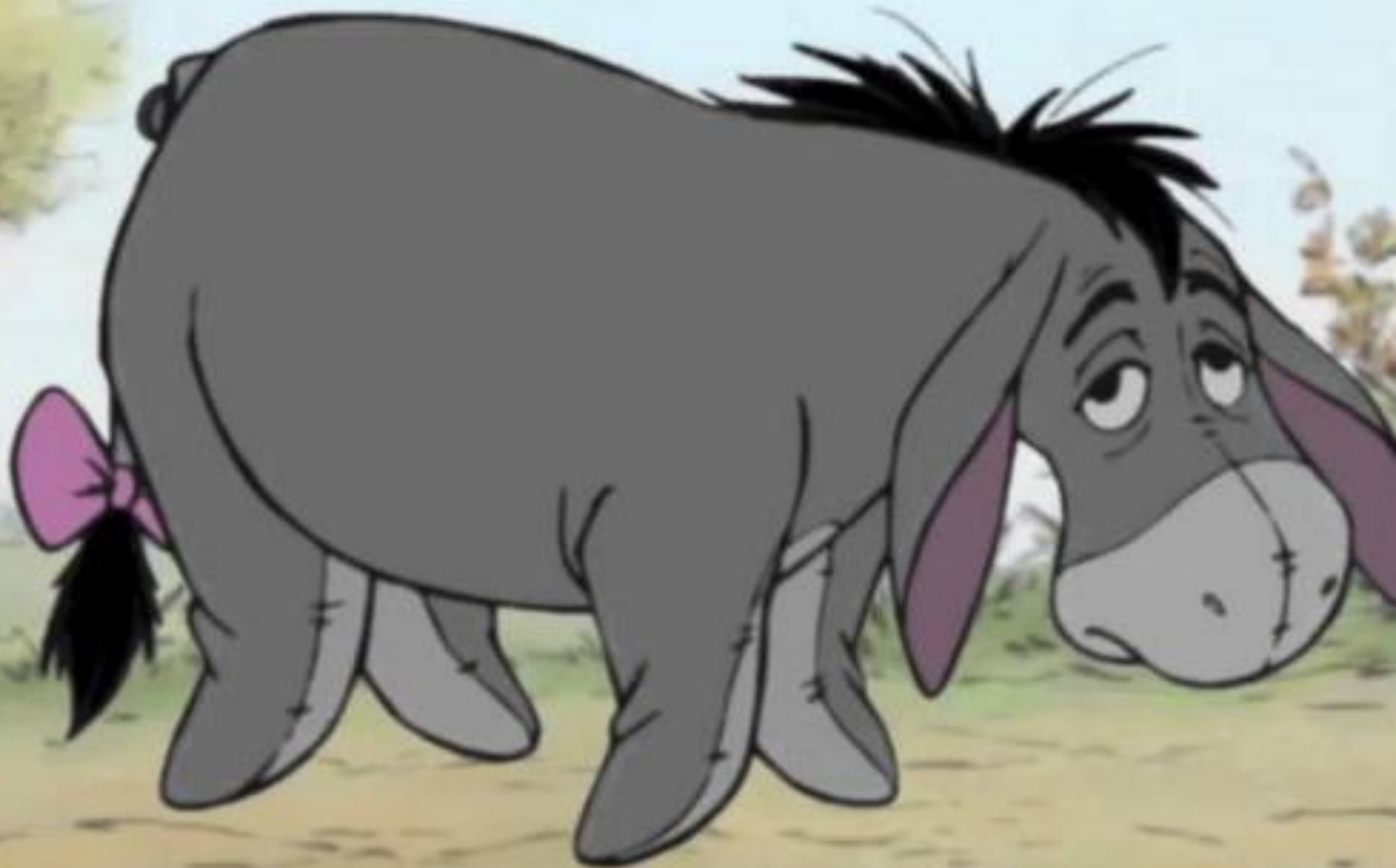
1892-1983

Ephesians 3:6

⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Ephesians 3:6

⁶ It is simply this: that the Gentiles, who were previously excluded from God's agreements, are to be equal heirs with His chosen people, equal members and equal partners in God's promise given by Christ through the Gospel. - (Phillips Paraphrase)



Romans 8:17

¹⁷ and if children, heirs also,
heirs of God and fellow heirs
with Christ, if indeed we suffer
with *Him* so that we may also be
glorified with *Him*.

1 Peter 3:7

⁷ You husbands in the same way, live with *your wives* in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

“In the arithmetic of earth, if each heir receives an equal share of an inheritance, each gets only a certain fraction of the whole amount. But heaven is not under such limits, and every adopted child of God will receive the full inheritance with the Son. Everything that Christ receives by divine right, we will receive by divine grace.” – J. MacArthur

I Timothy 5:1 & 2

¹ Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but *rather* appeal to *him* as a father, *to* the younger men as brothers, ² the older women as mothers, *and* the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

“We are all equal sinners.....We all come to one and the same Savior...We have the same salvation...We have the same Holy Spirit...We have the same father...We even have the same trials... And finally, we are all marching and going together to the same eternal home. It is a knowledge and appreciation of these things that will draw us together.” – M.L. Jones