

The Mystery Of Godliness I Timothy 3:16

Paul wrote to Timothy, “By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness.”

Since godliness is summed up in Jesus Christ, what did Paul list concerning our Lord Jesus for Timothy and for us?

How does such a statement lift us all up?

I. What Did Paul List Concerning Our Lord Jesus?

- A. Paul began his list with, “He who was revealed in the flesh,” and Paul revealed that Jesus emptied Himself taking the form of a bond-servant and being made in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7.) The writer of the Book of Hebrews wrote, “Since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself also partook of the same, that through death he might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.” (Hebrews 2:14.)
- B. Next, Paul listed “Was vindicated in the Spirit” and the word “vindicated” is defined as, “Show or prove to be right, reasonable, or justified.” From the time the Holy Spirit came and landed on Jesus, after He was baptized, Jesus was pronounced by God the Father as, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.” Next Paul lists “Seen by angels” and angels proclaimed His birth, comforted Him after His temptation from the devil and an angel was there with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and angels pronounced Jesus’ resurrection from the dead to His disciples. (Luke 2:13, 14; Matthew 4:11; Luke 22:43; 24:4-7.)
- C. Paul would next list “Proclaimed among the nations” and this is exactly what Paul’s ministry was dedicated to doing. (Acts 13:46-49; Galatians 2:7, 8.)
- D. Next, Paul listed “Believed on in the world” and “Taken up in glory” and the spread of the preaching of the gospel in the world led to world-wide acceptance and obedience! (Romans 16:26; Colossians 1:6.)

II. How Does Such A Statement Of Godliness Life Us All Up?

- A. All of these clear facts about Jesus that Paul summarized, as he uncovered the mystery of godliness, establish the factual basis of our belief in Christ! (Romans 16:25.)
- B. Every way that we could need and any kind of verification that Jesus came to this earth, lived His life, and then returned to His Father is actually provided in this single foundational verse!
- C. Because of these facts, you and I can KNOW that to believe in Jesus is to ANCHOR our souls with Him in Heaven! (Hebrews 6:17-20.)
- D. This is why we must be lifted up in our faith through which Jesus has transported us into Heavenly Places with Him! (Ephesians 2:4-7.)