

God's Providence

GOD'S PROVIDENCE AND THE CHURCH

Ephesians 3:1-13

PROVIDENCE OF GOD :: Continuing action of God in preserving His creation and guiding it toward His intended purposes.

1. God's Providence Involves Our Personal Lives

- a. the Reason (v 1a)
- b. the Position of Paul: a prisoner (v 1b)
- c. the Responsibility (v 2)
- d. the Mystery Revealed (v 3)

2. God's Providence Includes the Gentile Peoples

- a. Revealed to the Apostles by the Spirit (vv 4-5)
- b. Mystery Defined (v 6)
 - i. Gentiles are fellow heirs
 - ii. Gentiles are members of the same body
 - iii. Gentiles are partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus

3. God's Providence Demonstrates His Manifold Wisdom

- a. by Means of the Gift of Grace (v 7)
- b. to Proclaim the Unsearchable Riches of Christ (v 8)
- c. the Result (v 9)
- d. the Purpose (vv 10-12)

4. Conclusion (v 13)

I LOVE THY KINGDOM, LORD

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I love Thy kingdom, Lord,
The house of Thine abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood.

I love Thy Church, O God!
Her walls before Thee stand
Dear as the apple of Thine eye
And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall,
For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be giv'n
Till toils and cares shall end

Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heav'n-ly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy trust shall last
To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield
And brighter bless of heav'n.

