

# When God Conceals

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“I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes.” –  
Luke 10:21



## Introduction

- “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes.” – Luke 10:21
- Discussion:
  - Examples of when God conceals
  - How can we respond before the mysteries of God?

# Examples of when God conceals

(1) He conceals His mysteries from those who reject Him

- “But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. 15 But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.” (2 Cor. 3:14-16)



(1) He conceals His mysteries  
from those who reject Him

- “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind...If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.”

(Jn. 9:39, 41)





## (2) The Wise and Prudent

- In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes.” (Lk. 10:21)
- EX: Greek philosophers
  - “For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing.” (Acts 17:21)



(3) He conceals mysteries we cannot understand

- “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” (Jn. 3:5)
- Baptism is the garment we must wear to make us capable of entering the Kingdom of Heaven.



(4) When we intrude on matters that do not concern us

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Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, “But Lord, what about this man?” Jesus said to him, “If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.” (Jn. 21:21-22)





# St. Anthony the Great

***“Antony, keep your attention on yourself; these things are according to the judgment of God, and it is not to your advantage to know anything about them.”*** (Sayings of the Desert Fathers)



## (5) To reveal something greater

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- EX: Joseph
  - EX: Job
    - “And these things You have hidden in Your heart; I know that this was with You” (Job 10:13)
    - “Oh, that I knew where I might find Him, that I might come to His seat!” (Job 23:3)
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THE AGPEYA  
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THE COPTIC  
BOOK OF HOURS

(5) To reveal something greater

- “It is the glory of God to conceal a matter...” (Prov. 25:2)
- *“O Lord forgive us, for the sake of Your holy name which is called upon us. Let it be according to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.”* (Agpeya Prayers)



## (6) To keep us seeking Him

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- *“It is fitting indeed, and right, that we praise You, bless You, serve You, worship You, and glorify You, the one, only, true God, the lover of mankind, ineffable, invisible, infinite, without beginning, everlasting, timeless, and measurable, incomprehensible, unchangeable, creator of all, savior of everyone...”* (St. Gregory the Theologian, Anaphora, Divine Liturgy)
- **“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”** (Matt. 5:6)



(6) To keep us seeking Him

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night...” (2 Pet. 3:10)

How can we respond to the  
hidden mysteries of God?

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# (1) Trust in His providence

“I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. But now, **do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.** For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. **So now it was not you who sent me here, but God...**” (Gen. 45:4-8)



## (2) Submit to Him

Then Job answered the LORD and said: “I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You. You asked, ‘Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?’ **Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.** Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, ‘I will question you, and you shall answer Me.’ “I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. **Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.**” (Job 42:1-6)







### (3) Praise Him

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

*“For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor? Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?”*

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

(Rom. 11:33-36)