



Topic: Kingdom. Bible Scriptures: Matthew 13:44, 2 Corinthians 8:9, Matthew 18:11-14, Matthew 20:28, Matthew 13:45-46. Matthew 13:47-50 and Matthew 13:44-50.

Treasure

During His time on earth, Jesus spoke to the multitudes in parables, stories of modern life to convey a spiritual truth about God and His Kingdom. Through these stories Jesus reveals things hidden since the beginning of the world.

Away from the crowds His disciples turn all their attention to Jesus. He explains that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure. Let us look at this story.

Matthew 13:44 *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."*

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a place where the most precious things are stored. Those are most precious, most valuable and most glorious.

As the parable goes when a man found this treasure he hid it until he could redeem it, own it and possess it. Interesting to note the man did not possess the field where he found the treasure. He knows the treasure is of the highest value and is willing to give all that he has to redeem it.

Through this parable Jesus is showing the worth of the Kingdom of Heaven and all who enter into it. It is a treasury of most precious possessions.

The fullness of God's Kingdom on earth has been hidden from humanity. This is a result of humanity choosing to become one with the knowledge of good and evil. Through shame their eyes were blinded to the truth. God never hid Himself or ran from their shame. Humanity ran from God. Yet God is greater. He continually pursued in love and covered their shame.

*In Jesus our shame is removed and the mystery
of the kingdom is revealed in Jesus.*



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Humanity couldn't pay the cost to buy back the dominion over the earth, evil and self, as we ourselves became subject to it. When humanity rebelled against God and His right to rule and reign, His Kingdom became hidden.

The Kingdom of Heaven on earth cost everything to purchase for humanity.

Jesus, God who became a man, came to the land of the oppressed and downtrodden. People were under a foreign power, one of the most brutal and decadent empires of humanity. He came from heaven to earth, where the kingdom of heaven was hidden to humanity.

God placed the highest value on our salvation and for us to enter His Kingdom for all eternity. God in Jesus became the redeemer of humanity. Paid the ultimate cost to buy back what was rightfully His. In Him, through Him and for Him all things were created. God chose to give the earth to humanity who chose to give their dominion over the earth to evil and self.

The value or worth of anything is directly related to the price someone is willing to pay.

At the time of Jesus telling His disciples about the Kingdom of Heaven, He knew He was the man in the parable. The one who had given up everything to redeem what humanity gave away.

2 Corinthians 8:9 *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.*

The Kingdom of Heaven, His perfect world is where His will is done. Evil and selfishness has no power, no place and no part in God's kingdom. His Kingdom is a place of equality and respect. A place where He rules and reigns in love and justice. His justice is perfect and raises each one up equally.



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We cannot earn or deserve entry into His Kingdom. It is a free gift from God in receiving Jesus' sacrifice of Himself.

Discovering the good news of God's kingdom and truly understanding its full value brings great joy. When one who was lost receives Jesus and enters into His kingdom there is great joy in heaven. It is the heart of the Father that all will be saved, however not everyone chooses to be saved. Salvation and God's Kingdom is a choice.

Matthew 18:11-14 *For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.*

This joy of the Son of Man is His joy for us in Him. When we enter into His Kingdom in receiving Jesus and His right to rule and reign. We enter into His joy. The joy He not only is but also the revelation of the joy He has over us. He delights in us living in His Kingdom.

In this parable the man sold all that he had to possess the treasure. That is the enormous value of the Kingdom. Jesus illustrates both the value of the kingdom and the value that God places on our salvation.

Matthew 20:28 *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

When humanity received the revelation of the truth about God and His kingdom, those who choose to enter into it, receive it and possess it, rejoice.

God and His kingdom is not something that has no value. Everyone who enters into His Kingdom He considers of highest value. He Himself paid the ultimate cost!



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We are the ones who fill the treasury. We are the treasure of His treasury, the precious jewels of His creation.

This is the enormous cost that He paid for our salvation. The Son of God became flesh and blood, walked the earth as a man, died a horrible death and rose again, ascended to the right hand of the Father. He now is in a resurrected, glorified body. The cost to God is eternal. We are bought with the shed blood of Jesus.

God placed the highest of value on us. He paid the highest cost.

To emphasise the value of the Kingdom of Heaven and all who enter in, Jesus continues with another parable.

Matthew 13:45-46 *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."*

The merchant went out into the world seeking beautiful pearls. This is a wonderful picture of the Kingdom Heaven and Jesus. He went out from heaven down to earth. He became a man and gave up His heavenly riches. God the Father sent the son and to find those that are lost.

Beautiful in this parable means affinity, good, valuable, distinguished, worthy, excellent, precious genuine, beautiful or handsome. All these things God declares over us when we say yes to Jesus. We are His treasured possession.

The heavenly merchant desired us. At the first Pentecost after Jesus' ascension the pearl of great price was revealed to the world. The early church was formed as two or more gathered together in Jesus name.

To reveal the kingdom of Heaven further Jesus told another parable.



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Matthew 13:47-50 *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."*

This parable that ends this trilogy is talking about the present age and what is to come. Currently the gospel is being cast out across the world. Every kind is gathered.

Those who receive Him and those who reject Him are there. When all who will come to Him throughout the ages have come, Jesus will return.

The angels will be sent forth into the earth to reap the earth. Those who have received, declared beautiful, good and just in Jesus are set apart. They have a place in His Kingdom.

Those who have rejected Jesus, having rejected the only pathway to salvation are cast into the furnace of fire. The place they chose. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. On that day there will be the separation and eradication of evil with the just entering into eternal life.

Now is the time of grace or undeserved favour. The time where the pearl of great price is being revealed and the gospel cast out over the world. Everyone benefits from the grace of God and His Kingdom actioned in this world. Both the just, that have received Jesus, and the unjust, that have rejected Him.

However there will come a time of judgement, where those who have rejected Him will be exposed. They will receive the pathway they chose.

The Kingdom of Heaven is available for all who are willing. Receive the king and receive His Kingdom. Those who receive Jesus are the treasure of His Kingdom. The community of the disciples of Jesus all over the world are the good or just. They are the pearl of great price. Declared by God to be of the highest value.