



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

Matthew 13:44

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man has found, he hides it, and for the joy thereof goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

In our study on
"The Parables Of Jesus",
we have seen...

Different ways
in which the message of the
kingdom would be received

(**"The Sower"**)
(**Matthew 13:3**)

The efforts of Satan
to corrupt the the
kingdom of God is
seen in the parable of
"The Wheat And Tares".
(Matthew 13:25)

The growth of
the kingdom is seen in
the parable of

"The Mustard Seed"

&

"The Leaven"

(**Matthew 13**)

Each of these parables
are found in
Matthew 13,
and as we continue to
examine that chapter
we find more to come...

Our lesson for today
centers around
**"The Parable Of
The Hidden Treasure**
(Matthew 13:44-46)

➤ THE DETAILS OF THE
PARABLE...

- A man finds a treasure hidden in a field
 - He first hides it, then proceeds to buy the field

➤ Though he
must sell everything,
he does so gladly
in anticipation of the
treasure that will then
be rightfully his.

- Although this parable sounds strange to us,
- It would sound perfectly natural to people in Palestine in the days of Jesus,
- and even to this day it paints a picture which people in the East would know well.

➤ In the ancient world
there were banks,
but not banks such as
ordinary people could use.

➤ Ordinary people
used the ground
as the safest place to keep their
most cherished belonging.

In the
parable of the talents
the worthless servant
hid his talent
in the ground,
lest he should lose it
(**Matthew 25:25**).

➤ This was still more the case in a land where a man's garden might at any time **become a battlefield.**

➤ **Palestine** was probably the most fought over country in the world;

➤ **It was common practice** to hide valuables in the ground, before they took to flight, in the hope that the day would come when they could return and regain them.

- In *The Land and the Book*, which was first published in 1876, tells of a case of treasure discovery which the author himself came upon in Sidon.
 - Certain workmen, digging in a garden uncovered several copper pots full of gold coins.
- They had every intention of keeping the find to themselves; but there were so many of them, and they were so wild with excitement, that their treasure trove was discovered and claimed by the local government.

➤ It appears that in this parable Jesus glorifies a man who was guilty of very deceptive practice in that he hid the treasure, and then took steps to possess himself of it.

➤ There are two things to be said about that.

➤ First, in regard to
hidden treasure

➤ It was quite clear
under Jewish law

that a find of this sort
belonged to the finder.

- Second, keep in mind that, when we are dealing with any parable, the details are never meant to be stressed;
 - The parable has one main point, and to that point everything else is subservient.

➤ In this parable
the great point is
the joy of the discovery
that made the man willing
to give up everything to
make the treasure his own.

- The lesson of this parable is, first, that the man found something precious, not so much by chance, as in his day's work.
- It is true to say that he stumbled unexpectedly upon it, but he did so when he was going about his daily business.

And it is logical to infer that he must have been going about his daily business with diligence and efficiency, because he must have been digging deep, and not merely scraping the surface, in order to discover the treasure.

- Someone may be reading God's Word but not seeking nor caring for its buried treasure.
- They are looking at the Bible in every light but its true one, and seeking in it every blessing but that which is spiritual.

- While engaged in the reading of the Word the eye of understanding perceives a glimpse of a hidden treasure.
- Suddenly there is a desire for a deeper knowledge of God's wonderful Word.

- This **sudden** discovery changes everything.
- The **field** in which this treasure has so long been hidden now becomes of **infinite value.**

- In the **joy** of this marvelous discovery, one is ready to **renounce** everything of any earthly value that conflicts with possessing it,
- And **would willingly part** with that which the world most highly esteems, that he/she may gain it as their own.

➤ The chief aim of life,
now, is to be
"rich towards God;"
(Luke 12:21)

➤ To obtain that **soul-wealth**
which consists in
faith, and **love**, and **joy**, and
peace in the Lord Jesus.

- We can never estimate spiritual blessings *above* their real value.
- In truth, we can never give them their *true* worth.
- Sadly we always underrate them, because we do not and cannot now see the full blessedness and glory which they contain.

- So much of the Christian's happiness lies in the eternal world,
- And so large a portion of it is revealed under figures which the mind can scarcely comprehend that we completely fail in estimating their worth.

➤ It is a sad thing if it is
only on Sunday

that we feel close to God.

➤ If you find that the case then
consider digging deeper
in the word of God

and you will be drawn
closer to Him.

➤ **James 4:8**

**Draw near to God, and
he will draw near to you...**

➤ **“Study”**

(2 Timothy 2:15)

➤ Don't be guilty of

“having eyes seeing not”

(Matthew 13:13)

- It is a great thing to discover the treasure hid in this field, and the unspeakable value of it.
- The reason why so many find the gospel of no value, is because they look only upon the surface of the field.
- The richest mines are often in grounds that appear most barren.

➤ THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

➤ The kingdom of heaven
is infinitely valuable.

And those who know
its value

joyfully abandon everything
else to secure it.

➤ What distinguishes this parable from the “**Pearl of Great Price**” is that it describes the value of the kingdom to one who **accidentally** finds it.

➤ Though not purposely looking for it, **its value is immediately recognized.**

- The Apostle Paul is an example...
He discovered the "treasure" unexpectedly on the road to Damascus, going to persecute Christians (Acts 9:1-2)

- Paul's estimation of what he found:
- Something worth giving up all, if necessary .
(Philippians 3:4-11)
- Writing of "the gospel of the glory of Christ", Paul refers to it as a "treasure"
(2Corinthians 4:7)

➤ Clearly Paul considered Christ and His kingdom a "treasure" worth giving up all one had if necessary to obtain.

➤ What is there about the kingdom of Christ that makes it so valuable?

- **The Gospel's value**
lies in its
spiritual blessings
which it imparts
to the soul.

- **Mark 8:36**

**For what shall it profit a man,
if he shall gain the whole
world, and lose his own soul?**

➤ It is the *peace*,
"passing all understanding,"
which it imparts to the heart;
(**Philippians 4:7**)

➤ It is the
"joy unspeakable"
(**1 Peter 1:8**)

➤ It is the
"hope that makes not ashamed,"
(**Romans 5:5**)

- The kingdom's exceeding value:
- Outside the kingdom of heaven,
one is in the
kingdom of Satan
(**Ephesians 2:1-3**)
- A refuge from the powers of darkness
(**Colossians 1:13**)
- But the kingdom of Christ offers
deliverance.
(**Colossians 1:13**)
- We are set free from the guilt and dominion of sin,
so that we can serve God (Rom 6:17-18)

- The gospel is the field in which this treasure is hid:
- It is hid in the word of both the Old-Testament and the New-Testament gospel.

- Isaiah 12:3

Therefore with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of salvation.

➤ A domain of
righteousness,
peace, joy.
(Romans 14:17)

A peace from God, which
surpasses all understanding.
(Philippians 4:6-7)

➤ **An unshakable kingdom**
(Hebrews 12:25-29)

➤ One which shall
never be destroyed
(Daniel 2:44)

➤ Therefore, a truly
everlasting kingdom
(2Peter 1:10-11)

Destined for
eternal glory.
(1 Corinthians 15:21-26)

Those who are truly
"sons of the kingdom"
will
"shine forth as the sun in the
kingdom of their Father",
(Matthew 13:41-43)

- Years ago, when the first diamonds were being discovered in Africa, diamond fever spread across the continent like wildfire.
- Many people struck it rich in their search for the sparkling beauties, and they became millionaires overnight.

- <https://www.nightingale.com/articles/acres-of-diamonds/>

- At this time, Lamar, a young black farmer in central Africa, was scratching out a moderate living on the land that he owned.
 - However, the promise of great diamond wealth soon possessed Lamar, and one day he could no longer restrain his insatiable desire for diamonds and the lust to become a wealthy man.
 - He sold his farm, packed a few essentials and set out in search of the magnificent stones.

- His search was long and painful.
- He wandered throughout the African continent,
 - Lamar searched day after day, week after week, but found no diamonds.
- <https://www.nightingale.com/articles/acres-of-diamonds/>

- He became sick, penniless, and utterly discouraged.
- He felt there was nothing more to live for, so he threw himself in a raging river and drowned.

- <https://www.nightingale.com/articles/acres-of-diamonds/>

The man who bought
the farm discovered
that diamonds littered
the farm which
Larmar had failed
to recognize.

- Lamar was
unaware
that the diamonds
he sought
were literally
under his feet.

- <https://www.nightingale.com/articles/acres-of-diamonds/>

- What treasure lies under your feet?

. What is the value of the kingdom?

I wish we could ask...

Stephen, the first Christian martyr (Acts 7)

The early Christians, who experienced persecution (Acts 8:1-4)

The apostle Paul, who suffered so much for the kingdom
(2 Ti 3:10-11; 4:6-8, 16-18)

How about us?

Are we willing
to pay the full price
to obtain the
"treasure"
of the kingdom?

**Doors of the church
are open.**

**Spirit & Bride Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17