

THE PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE

THE PARABLE OF THE PEARL HUNTER

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it” (Mt. 13:44-46).

I. Introduction:

- A. A parable may be defined as: “An earthly story with a spiritual meaning.”
- B. Before we address the main point of the two parables, let’s first note...

II. A Short Synopsis of the Parables:

- A. In the first parable a man discovers treasure hidden in a field. Realizing what he had found, the man joyfully sold all his possessions to get enough money to purchase the field, and thus acquire the treasure.
- B. In the second parable a merchant man known for seeking goodly (fine) pearls finds one pearl of exceeding great value. He had to have the precious pearl. To acquire the item he sold all that he had.

III. The Main Point of the Two Parables:

- A. Many people read much into these parables.
- B. The simple point both parables are emphasizing is that the kingdom of God; i.e. the church of Christ is so very, very valuable. So valuable is the kingdom that one should be willing to lose everything to “obtain” it.

IV. Additional Points that Can be Gleaned from the Two Parables.

A. The kingdom can be found; it would be (and now is) recognizable.

- 1. The man found the treasure. The merchant man found the pearl.
- 2. The kingdom can be found; it can be discovered.

B. Some people discover the kingdom when they are not looking for it.

- 1. Nothing in the first parable suggests the unnamed man was deliberately looking for treasure.
- 2. Saul of Tarsus “stumbled” upon the kingdom – **Ax. 9:1-8**. Philippian jailor – **Ax. 16:16-34**.

C. Some people discover the kingdom because they are seeking after it.

- 1. The merchant man was seeking.
- 2. The Ethiopian Eunuch was a seeker – **Ax. 8:26-40**.
- 3. Cornelius was a seeker – **Ax. 10:1-2 (11:14)**.

D. Sadly, many are not as wise as the two men Jesus spoke of.

- 1. Many people foolishly reject the precious find they come across!
- 2. Agrippa – **Ax. 26:19-29**. An unmade rich man – **Mk. 10:17-23**.

V. Conclusion:

- A. These two parables are about the necessity of recognizing the value of the kingdom & being willing to pay the price to take hold of the same.
- B. Do you undervalue the kingdom?