

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

In Matthew 13:44-46, Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.” Jesus is telling about two discoveries that were worth selling everything their owners had in order to acquire those treasures. Jesus is reminding us that there are some things in life that are priceless. For example, how much would you take for your health? Or how much would you take for one of your children or grandchildren? Some of you are thinking, “Which one?” Just kidding, of course. How much would you take for your good mind? Most do not appreciate the important things in life until they lose them. There are some things that are priceless, though we may not realize their worth at the time. We need to sit down from time to time and enumerate those priceless things in our life and ask whether our day-to-day priorities reflect the things that matter most. To many are literally destroying their lives pursuing worthless treasures. Some things are priceless, they cannot be measured in dollars. Your life is one of those. Your family is another. Your health is another. But most important is YOUR SOUL. No matter how much you may own, no matter how glamorous you may be, no matter how high on the I. Q. scale you register, if you have missed out on the kingdom of heaven, you have missed out on the one and only thing in life and the life to come, whose value exceeds all others.

If it is true that the kingdom of God is worth more than everything else, we own, don't you think that you and I should know more about this kingdom that Christ is describing, and furthermore, don't you think that this should be our foremost vocation to appropriate that kingdom for ourselves? What can we say about the kingdom of heaven that will help us see how precious it is? The Kingdom of Heaven” was the primary content of Jesus' teachings, it is almost an unknown entity to many Christians. So, let's try to get our minds around this important kingdom that Jesus talked so much about. The Kingdom of God Exists where He is made Lord and not Just Savior! Does God rule in your life? Then you are already experiencing the kingdom of God. Wherever God is, there is His kingdom. Wherever God is there is love, joy, peace, and total contentment. Does God Rule in the way you treat others, Speak to Others! What would it be worth to you to have love, peace, joy & contentment in your life? It is not about being RIGHT but being RIGHTEUOS! It is not about being HAPPY but being HOLY!

Deep down we know this to be true, yet we resist because we think we can do a better job ordering our life than God. We love to be in control, even if being in control offers us a mediocre life at best and makes people around us miserable, we miss so much in life because we refuse to turn over complete control of our lives to God. We resist confessing our sin, accepting God's gracious unconditional love, and surrendering our lives to His leadership. We want to be in control of our own lives, even if we sometimes mess up our lives, even if we are not too satisfied with our lives. Jesus says to us that we will never find the abundant life that God offers us until we put ourselves completely under His control. I pray you will and discover the greatest treasure of all life and experience God's love, peace, joy and contentment in your life.