

Eight Parables of the Kingdom—Part 5
“The Parables of the Treasure & the Pearl”
Matthew 13:44-46

I. The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (v. 44)

- a. ***the kingdom of heaven*** = salvation by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ
- b. this ***man*** wasn't looking for this ***treasure*** (cf. Acts 9)
- c. This is a short Parable, not an allegory, so every little detail is not important:
 - i. In the ancient world there was no moral dilemma in finding a ***treasure*** in someone else's ***field***
 - ii. He did not hide the treasure ***again*** immorally; he just wanted to protect it while he legally bought the ***field***
 - iii. We should not hide the Gospel!
- d. The Main Lesson of this Parable is HOW you should respond to Jesus:
 - i. The man acted out of ***joy*** (cf. Ps. 84:10; cf. Ps. 19:9-10; 119:127-128; Phil. 3:13-14)
 - ii. The gift of salvation is FREE to possess! (cf. Rom. 3:24; 5:15; 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9)
 - iii. But it may cost you everything to keep! (cf. Matt. 10:34-39)
 - iv. It's not enough to know about the kingdom of heaven; you must also possess it! (cf. Rom. 10:1-15)

II. The Parable of the Valuable Pearl:

- a. ***again*** = ***palin*** (πάλιν) = these two parables are closely linked
- b. But there is a big difference:
 - i. The ***man*** found the ***treasure*** unexpectedly, but this ***merchant*** was ***seeking*** it very earnestly.
 - ii. Jesus is telling us that ***the kingdom of heaven*** is open to everyone! (cf. Isa. 55:1-3)
- c. ***merchant*** = ***emporos*** (εμπόρος) = “one who is engaged in commerce and trade—‘merchant’” VS. ***kapēleuō*** (καπηλεύω) = “to engage in retail business, with the implication of deceptiveness and greedy motives—to peddle for profit, a huckster””
- d. The right response to Jesus is being willing to give up everything and anything to follow Him! (cf. 1 Kings 18:21; James 4:4; Matt. 6:24; 8:18-22; 16:24-26; Luke 9:57-62; John 15:19; Rom. 8:7; Gal. 1:10; 1 John 2:15)