

Series: Kingdom Parables
Sermon: Valuing the Kingdom
Scripture: Matthew 13:44-46
Teacher: Jeff Norris
Date: January 21, 2024

Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)

⁴⁴ *The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

⁴⁵ *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,*

⁴⁶ *who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.*

Main Idea: The kingdom of God is of inestimable and immeasurable value; such that sacrifice and joy are the predominant markers of possessing it.

We want to think and live and act and speak in such a way that we draw attention to the manifold perfections of God. And I think the way we do that best is by being totally satisfied in those perfections ourselves. They mean more to us than money and more to us than fame and more to us than sex or anything else that might compete for our affections. And when people see us valuing God that much and his glory being that satisfying, they see that he is our treasure. – John Piper,
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism/how-and-why-did-god-create-us/>

The Treasure in the Field: Surprised by joy. (v. 44)

Explain: The parable paints a picture of a poor man working a field. His daily reality.

"The point of the parable is that the kingdom of heaven, the glad recognition of God's rule over heart and life, including salvation for the present and for the future, for soul and ultimately also for the body, the great privilege of being thereby made a blessing to others to the glory of God, all this, is a treasure so inestimably precious that one who obtains it is willing to surrender for it whatever could interfere with having it. It is the supreme treasure because it fully satisfies the needs of the heart. It brings inner peace and satisfaction."

- William Hendriksen, *New Testament Commentary - Matthew*, p. 576.

The Pearl of Great Value: The end of searching. (v. 45-46)

Explain: If the parable of the treasure compares the kingdom to a delightful surprise, this parable compares it to the climax of a careful quest. (Dorani)

"There are other pearls in the market. There are other things of great value. But none is to compare with the pearl of great value." - Michael Green, *BST*, p. 160.