

The Treasure Parables

Found only in Matthew 13:44-46, Jesus lays two parables side by side that emphasize finding great value. It is the "Kingdom of Heaven," that is the value.



A. The **similarities** in these two parables:

- both men found incredible _____
- both men realized the _____ of what they found
- both men, without _____, sold all that they had to acquire the treasure

B. The **differences** in these two parables:

- the first man _____ upon the treasure in the field
- the pearl merchant was _____

Two Immediate Principles:

- (1) The kingdom is _____
- (2) People come to the kingdom _____
 - some unexpectedly
 - some have been searching for a long time

The Treasure in the Field (44): The Discoverer

One of the shortest parables (only 36 words)

For security reasons people often buried treasures in fields they owned (Mt 25:25)

The man realized what he found

He acted _____ and _____

He _____ his entire life (this treasure became his greatest possession)

What he did brought him great _____

- Phil 3:8

Samaritan woman (John 4); Philippian jailer (Acts 16): are examples of finding great treasure



What is a modern example of someone not looking but finding the kingdom of God?

What makes the kingdom valuable?

- Why would both men sell all that they had to obtain the kingdom?
- How can we emphasize the "value" of the kingdom rather than the duty towards it ?



The Pearl Merchant (45-46): The Seeker

- This man has likely seen hundreds of pearls
- His search is _____. He _____ what he is looking for
- He finds one of unmatched beauty, supreme value and incredible quality. He sold all that he had to obtain that one pearl.

What would a "seeker" be looking for?

Cornelius (Acts 10); Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8) are examples of searchers who found

- Mt 6:33 _____ first His kingdom and His righteousness
- Mt 7:8 He who seeks _____

C. Both men made immediate huge financial decisions. They held nothing back (Lk 14:33)

- the sacrifices they made did not feel like a loss. They joyfully committed to obtaining the treasures

Obedience stops feeling like obligation and a burden and becomes an act of _____
 Worship isn't forced or compelled. It becomes an _____ (Ps 122:1; 34:3)
 Sacrifice and being a servant becomes _____ and _____

They gave up to obtain. You never lose by choosing the kingdom.

1. What keeps people from seeing the treasure of God's kingdom

The problem is not the value of the kingdom, but the perception.

2. The question is not: Is the kingdom valuable? The real question is: "Do I value it enough to place it above all else?"

Our English word 'worship' comes from the Latin, meaning "worth-ship." How does this tie in to our study?

What are some things a person might give up today to obtain the kingdom?

- The problem with some today is that they know the kingdom of God is important, but they haven't settled on it being the most important. How can that change?

3. For the disciple:

No sacrifice is too _____

No price is too _____

No earthly possession _____

For the Kingdom of Heaven

D. In an interesting twist, the Lord in His sermon talks about our treasure (Mt 6:19-21)

- Jesus again brings this up in Mt 19:21

Jesus contrasts "treasures upon earth" and "treasures in Heaven."
 What are these?