

Treasure Hidden In A Field

- I. Matthew 13:44 - *“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.”* NASB

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field — and to get the treasure, too!” NLT

A. Lets look at some key words in this verse in order to gain the understanding that God has for us.

1. The Greek word for “treasure” is “thesauros” which is defined as “a place in which good and precious things are collected and laid up, a treasury, a storehouse, or repository.

a. In other words a treasure chest full of good and precious things.

b. I’ve been looking for treasure all my life, as I suspect most people are.

c. We are looking for something of great value.

1) It may be the value of a relationship 2) It may be the value of a good job

3) It may be the value of feeling good 4) It may be the value of a good name and reputation.

d. Hollywood has figured this out and are now making millions off of mankind’s innate desire to find and possess treasure.

1) Reality TV shows are popular because the contestants receive a treasure.

**Survivor - Fear Factor - The Amazing Race - American Idol - The apprentice
Hell’s Kitchen - The Biggest Loser - Beauty and the Geek.**

2) Some of the most popular movies have to do with finding treasure

Pirates of the Carribbean - National Treasure - Sahara

e. In this whole pursuit of treasure, you see what you normally wouldn’t see from people.

1) You see what they will do, if they really recognize something as treasure

- They will endure humiliation, criticism, harshness, misunderstanding, unfairness, cruelty, rejection, and being made fun of.

- **They will pay what ever the cost**

2) All of that just for the possibility of a treasure, not even a sure thing.

3) And in the end, almost all of them say that the real treasure wasn't the cash they received, but the part of their character that was developed.

f. In my pursuit of perceived treasure, I loss the real treasure that I already had.

1) I loss my family 2) I loss my health 3) I almost loss my mind

4) I loss my freedom 5) I loss my dreams 6) I loss my soul

2. The Greek word for "hidden" is "krupto" which is defined as "to cause something to be invisible for the purpose of safekeeping and protection.

a. The implication is that only God can help you see the treasure

1) **Psalms 119:18** - *"Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Thy law."*

2) **Luke 24:45** - *"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures."*

b. The Greek word for "found" is "heurisko" which is defined as "to discover, to be detected, to examine, to come to know by experience."

1) All of these word involve a process.

2) Only seekers find and only the thirsty get invited to drink.

Jeremiah 29:13-14 - "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. And I will be found by you,' declares the LORD,' and I will restore your fortunes."

***"If you look for me in earnest, you will find me when you seek me. I will be found by you," says the LORD. "I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes."** NLT*

John 7:37 - "Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink." NASB

Isaiah 41:17 - "The poor and homeless are desperate for water, their tongues parched and no water to be found. But I'm there to be found, I'm there for them, and I, God of Israel, will not leave them thirsty." THE MESSAGE

Isaiah 55:1 - "Hey there! All who are thirsty, come to the water! Are you penniless? Come anyway — buy and eat! Come, buy your drinks, buy wine and milk. Buy without money — everything's free! THE MESSAGE

B. This treasure chest of the Kingdom of Heaven is comprised of 4 good and precious things that Jesus came to earth to make available to all of mankind.

- One has to do with the here-after but the other three have to do with the here.
- **The first gives you the answer to death, the other three give you the answers to life.**

1. The first aspect of this treasure is “Life Eternal”

John 3:16 - *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”*

John 5:24 - *“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”*

John 6:47 - *“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.”*

2. The second aspect of this treasure is “Abundant Life.”

John 10:10 - *“The thief comes only in order to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life--life in all its fullness.”* TEV

The Greek word for “abundant” is “*perissos*” which is defined as, “*exceeding some number or measure or rank or need, over and above, more than is necessary, or superior, extraordinary, surpassing, uncommon.*”

Psalms 61:6-7 - *“You will give me added years of life, as rich and full as those of many generations, all packed into one.”* TLB

3. The third aspect of this treasure is a “Changed Life.”

Romans 8:29 - *“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.”*

“God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son.” THE MESSAGE

Romans 5:17 - *“For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”*

4. The fourth aspect of this treasure is a “Meaningful Life.”

Colossians 1:16 - Ephesians 2:10 - Colossians 1:28

Partaking of this treasure will cause you to live eternally, it will cause you to live abundantly, it will cause you to live differently, and it will cause you to live meaningfully.

C. What you pay for a treasure like that. There are only two requirements

1. Sell everything.

- a. The price is the same everyone - everything that you have.

Matthew 16:24-26 - *“For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it.”*

“Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, your true self.” THE MESSAGE

Luke 14:33 - *“In the same way,” concluded Jesus, “none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up everything he has.”* TEV

“Simply put, if you're not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it good-bye, you can't be my disciple.” THE MESSAGE

- b. **The Lord knows that the key to commitment and consistency is requiring them to pay a price. The higher the price the more intense the commitment.**

Proverbs 23:23 - “Buy truth, and do not sell it.” What a price - but what a treasure

2. You don't buy the treasure - you buy the field.

- a. In the field are hypocrites, people who will hurt you, trials, tribulations, and the Church.

1) **But it is dealing with the field that strengthens you so that when you get the blessing, you will be able to keep it.**

2) It's the field that separates the sincere from the insincere, from those who want a God that will bless and cause others to bless them, instead of wanting to be a person who blesses God and others.

- b. **Let me give some personal examples of some fields with treasures and their cost.**

1) The Field - 30 Year prison sentence

The Treasure - Become the man that I always wanted to be.

The Cost - Turn myself in and plead guilty.

2) **The Field - Scatterhead**

The Treasure - His soul and my faith

The Cost - The beating of my life

3) The Field - Satan Sheet Slayer

The Treasure - Becoming a friend that loves at all times

The Cost - My reputation