

## Acres of Diamonds

### Psalm 119:18

“Open my eyes that I might see wonderful things in your law.”

### Story: Acres of Diamonds

Russell Conwell first shared the story, copyright 1915. He made it into a pamphlet and sold 7 million copies.

About a man named Ali Hafed who was a Persian man not far from the Indus River. “Ali Hafed owned a very large farm, he had orchards, grain-fields, and gardens. He was a blessed and contented man.

One day a visitor came to Ali’s home and told him all about diamonds; where they came from and how much they were worth. That night Ali went to bed a poor man.

Afterwards he sold his whole farm, left his family and went off searching for diamonds all throughout Europe and India. After searching and searching he wrote in his last letter “there are no diamonds anywhere.”

He never found any diamonds and as the story goes Ali threw himself into a raging river and ended his own life away from family and friends.

The unbelievable part of the story is this;

The man that bought the field from Ali Hafed took the same old Ox and the same old plow and the same old field and began working the ground.

One account says; As he worked the ground the man kept finding these black rocks peppered throughout the field. They were an annoyance to the man so he began collecting these black rocks into piles, one pile over here, another pile over there.

One day the new farmer took his camel out to get water and noticed something shining in the water. He pulled a large black stone out of the water. It was so magnificent he decided to place it on the mantle in his house.

One day a priest came to visit the new farmer. When he walked into the house the priest couldn't help but notice the black rock on the mantle and asked the farmer where he found the magnificent looking rock. The farmer told the priest, out in my field, they are all over the place. The priest then told the farmer, that's not just any old rock, that is a diamond in the raw.

That one diamond was evaluated and appraised for \$25,000 in the 1800's. That was the birth of the Golconda Diamond Mine. The Queen of England would go on to say I want my diamonds to come from that place. It would become a sought after source of diamonds to many other royalty.

Ali Hafed's old farm that he sold in search of diamonds produced

- The [Great Mogul Diamond](#), in the raw 787 carats, cut 280 carats.
- The [Nizām Diamond](#), 340 carats; currently owned by the [Government of India](#).
- The [Regent Diamond](#) is widely considered the most beautiful and the purest diamond in the world. It is a 141-carat (28.2 g) [diamond](#) owned by the French state and on display in the [Louvre](#), worth more than \$54,000,000.

The end of the story reads like this; "Had Ali Hafed remained at home and dug in his own cellar, or underneath his own wheat-fields, or in his own garden, instead of wretchedness, starvation, and death by suicide in a strange land, he would have had 'acres of diamonds' he was searching for. For every acre of that old farm, yes, every shovelful, afterward revealed gems which since have decorated the crowns of monarchs."

The man who flung himself into that raging river never realized he was living on acres of diamonds.

- He thought what he wanted was out there...
- Never realizing the value of what is right here...
- Not realizing that what he was looking for was right in front of him the whole time...

There is a Process to making a diamond:

The process of making a diamond takes time

The process of making a diamond takes pressure  
The process of making a diamond takes heat

- When we endure long suffering
- When we endure pressure from every side
- When we endure trials and difficulty
- Can I tell you God is turning something into diamonds in your life.

The Carbon in the earth has to stay put in the belly of the earth and endure these things if that Carbon is ever going to be transformed in to a diamond.

The same is true of you and I...

- In this life you will have troubles
- There is no such thing as a trouble free life

When was young and life got tough my momma would always say these words to me...

“When the going gets tough, the tough get going” she would also say “Welcome to Planet Earth”.

- There is no such thing as a trouble free life

John 16:33 **“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

- In this world there will be troubles; with Jesus or without Jesus
- I would rather face troubles in this world with the one who has power over the winds and the rain...

## **Recognize the Diamonds in your life**

It's amazing to me the Ali had the same field, with the same ox and the same plow and the lived in the same house that the new farmer had. Ali faced the same frustrations the new farmer faced with the black rocks and

never realized that the annoyances were really the diamonds he was looking for...

May God help us to Recognize the Diamonds in our life and be thankful for the many Blessings God has given...

It's a wonderful thing when a Husband sees his wife as a Diamond...

Or a Wife sees her Husband as a Diamond...

That's when marriage turns into treasure instead of burden...

Zig Ziglar said *"When a husband or a wife decides to treat the wrong one like the right one they find out they had the right one all along."*

How about Children

How about your Health

How about your Home

How about your Job

There is someone else out there who would love to have what you have...

### **Luke 16**

10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

- Recognize the Diamonds in your life or you will miss them...
- If you fail to see them you could become like Ali Hafed and sell off all the blessings that are right under your nose because you didn't recognize them...
- I'm here today to tell you Dig in your own back yard

### **1 Timothy 6:6**

Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

**Luke 15** (Prodigal Son Story)

- The prodigal came home to find happiness he did not find when he lived there before...
- He didn't know what he had till it was gone...

Jesus said - "The Kingdom of God is at hand" - Salvation is right here...

The Pharisee's had the Messiah right under their noses and missed it  
Don't you take your Salvation for granted...

At Calvary there where 3 Crosses  
On either side of Jesus there were two thieves:

The One Thief looks at Jesus:

He sees Jesus Pitiful

Bloody

Disfigured

Powerless

Helpless

and as Despised as they were

On the other side of Jesus there is another Thief:

He sees the same Jesus the first thief saw...

The same Blood

The same Cross

The same Suffering

He says to Jesus will you remember me when you come into your kingdom  
And Jesus said to him "Today you will be with me in Paradise"  
One missed it and the other man got it...

Here's the Acres of Diamonds:

And on that middle cross was a man named Jesus...

And that man named Jesus is the Son of God...

The man on that Middle Cross is the Savior and Redeemer of Mankind ...

He is not only a Savior for the thief who believed, He is a Savior for You and Me...

### **Matthew 13**

44 "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.

The Greatest Treasure the universe has ever seen is found in the Son of God

He is like diamonds in a field that many people will look right past...

They will never know just how great he is...

They will never know what it feels like to be forgiven by God...

They will never know what it feels like to be right with God...

Because they will never sell every thing they have to know Him...

I'm here today to tell you there are Acres of Diamonds all around you...