

The Treasure is worth the Sacrifice!

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

I. What or who is this parable talking about

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like..."

Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like..."

Jesus is not talking about Salvation here. He is talking to the Disciples in private!

Mark 4:11 (NKJV) And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables."

II. What is the Kingdom?

The phrase "Kingdom of God" appears about 66 times in the New Testament (depending on the translation). The related phrase "Kingdom of Heaven" appears about 32 times, primarily in the Gospel of Matthew (used instead of "Kingdom of God" due to Jewish reverence for God's name).

The Kingdom is mentioned over 100 times in the New Testament

John 18:36 (NKJV) Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world..."

Kingdom: realm, empire, sovereignty; a realm or area of activity in which a particular thing is thought to dominate.

Luke 17:20-21 (NKJV) Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Wherever there are those who accept and honor Jesus Christ as their Lord, and wherever the Spirit of the God is, there is the Kingdom of God.

John 14:23 (NKJV) Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

III. How does one seek the Kingdom?

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid..."

Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls..."

Philippians 3:20 (NKJV) For our citizenship is in heaven...

Colossians 3:1-2 (NKJV) If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Matthew 6:33 (AMP) But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right)...

Luke 9:23 (NLT) Then He said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow Me."

****Matthew 10:38 (NLT)** If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine.

****1 Chronicles 22:19 (NKJV)** Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God. Therefore, arise and build the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD and the holy articles of God into the house that is to be built for the name of the LORD."

IV. The blessing of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) ...and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) ...when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

The first did not understand the fullness of the Kingdom and stumbled upon its worth! The second knew exactly what he was looking for and understood the value!

Romans 12:1 (NLT) And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him.

The price we're willing to pay shows the worth we place on something.

Matthew 6:21 (NKJV) For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

What kingdom living represents!

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) ...and for joy over it...

John 15:10-11 (NKJV) If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

Psalms 16:11 (NKJV) You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Even Jesus: Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Colossians 1:13 (AMP) [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

Romans 6:5-6 (NLT) Since we have been united with Him in His death, we will also be raised to life as He was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

Luke 10:19 (NKJV) Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

John 10:10 (NLT) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NKJV) And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

John 14:13-14 (NKJV) And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.