

Jesus On Purpose: The Path Of A Resurrected Heart

PART 18 — “WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE KINGDOM?”

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Opening Statement

The Kingdom may begin hidden and small, but it will eventually consume everything. Once you truly recognize its value, surrender is the only reasonable response.

The resurrected heart recognizes what **others overlook**, allows the Kingdom to transform everything within it, and gladly releases everything temporary for what is eternal.

I. THE MUSTARD SEED — DON'T DESPISE WHAT LOOKS SMALL

³¹ *Here is another illustration Jesus used: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches. (MT 13: 31,32)*

Jesus begins with something unimpressive. A seed. Something tiny. Something buried. Something easily overlooked.

Yet inside that tiny seed exists a future completely disproportionate to its appearance.

That sounds remarkably like Jesus Himself.

Nazareth. A carpenter. Twelve disciples. No army. No political office. No earthly throne.

And eventually: **a Kingdom filling the earth**.

This has been the pattern throughout the Resurrection series:

*****God hides enormous life inside things that look insignificant.*****

Jesus was hidden thirty years. - The seed disappears underground.

Jesus disappears into a tomb. - But hidden does not mean dead.

The simple message: **Don't judge what God is doing by what you presently see.**

Our human heart wants: power, visibility, recognition, immediate results.

The resurrected heart understands: **God often begins His greatest work where nobody is looking.**

II. THE YEAST — THE KINGDOM DOESN'T WANT PART OF YOU

³³ *Jesus also used this illustration: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.”*

³⁴ *Jesus always used stories and illustrations like these when speaking to the crowds. In fact, he never spoke to them without using such parables. ³⁵ This fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet:*

“I will speak to you in parables.

I will explain things hidden since the creation of the world.” (Mt 13: 33-35)

Now Jesus moves from **growth** to **transformation**.

- The mustard seed grows outward.
- The yeast works inward.

And notice the language: **“It permeated every part.”**

That is the Jesus' intention for the human heart.

Jesus did not come merely to become one part of your life.

Not:

Jesus + career.

Jesus + marriage.

Jesus + politics.

Jesus + possessions.

Jesus + ambitions.

He intends eventually to permeate **everything**.

Your relationships. Your money. Your sexuality. Your anger. Your fears. Your ambitions.

Your need for control. Your response to authority. Your suffering. Your private thoughts.

Even the places you don't want Him touching.

This is the heart He intends to form, and if you allow Him to mold you, He will go even deeper when your ready to the place of uncomfotability.... The Songs 5 place....where you assume you have made it, but He requires to die even more.

Jesus is preparing us to be Kings and Priests in His image, not in ours. He is a Kings that died for us, gave up His Heavenly Place to become His creation, in order to die for us. That sacrifice, that humility is where He is driving our hearts, because that is where His heart is at.

The resurrected heart doesn't simply ask:

"How much of Jesus do I need?"

It eventually asks:

"Jesus, what part of me still doesn't belong to You?"

- Because the Kingdom is not behavior modification.
- It is transformation from the inside out.

And yeast does its work quietly. You cannot necessarily watch yeast working.

But eventually you can see what it has done.

That sounds exactly like the Sower.

Seed → roots → growth → fruit.

Jesus' intentions is to get inside of you and eventually change what comes out of you.

III. THE TREASURE AND THE PEARL — WHEN YOU FINALLY SEE IT

Then Jesus gives two incredibly simple stories.

⁴⁴ ***"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.***

⁴⁵ ***"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. ⁴⁶ When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it! (Mt 13:44,45)***

Do you notice something beautiful.

Jesus doesn't portray these people reluctantly giving everything away.

The man finds the treasure and **"in his excitement"** sells everything.

That changes the entire meaning. He isn't miserable.

He isn't thinking: *Look at everything God is making me sacrifice.*

He understands something everyone else doesn't.

He knows what he found. This is the transformation of the heart in Song 8 when the Bride says :

Place me like a seal over your heart,

like a seal on your arm.

For love is as strong as death,

its jealousy^{cl} as enduring as the grave. (Songs 8:6)

Everyone watching him sell everything might think he's crazy. But they cannot see the treasure.

And this may be one of Jesus' simplest explanations of discipleship.

Once you truly see the Kingdom for what it is, surrender begins making sense.

Before you see the treasure:

- surrender looks foolish.

- obedience looks restrictive.
- sacrifice looks painful.
- dying to yourself looks extreme.

But once you see the treasure: **everything changes value.**

This connects directly to the resurrected heart you have been developing throughout the series.

Jesus isn't simply trying to convince us: **"You need to give everything up."** (and honestly, many who hear this message, not the way I preach, but the message of sacrifice may honestly initially receive this as a one sided scam message)

He's trying to show us something so beautiful that eventually our hearts say:

"Why would I hold onto this when I can have THAT?"

IT's that's different. *** I want you all to get there, because when you get there, you hate sin, all you want is to talk Jesus, and input His heart into everything you do and say

IV. THE NET — AND THEN JESUS BRINGS EVERYTHING TO THE END

***And this is where Jesus **refuses** to allow the parables to *remain merely inspirational*.

!!!He ends with judgment!!!

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net..." (MT 13: v.47)

The net gathers **"fish of every kind."**

For a time, everything is together.

Just like: **wheat and tares.**

Just like: **good soil and bad soil existing during the growing season.**

But eventually: ***"When the net was full, they dragged it up onto the shore..." (MT 13: v.48)***

There is an endpoint. And Jesus removes any ambiguity:

"That is the way it will be at the end of the world." (v.49)

That is the eschatological warning underneath everything Jesus has been teaching.

*****Interjection: The Podcast about whether we can lose our Salvation**

Very prominent Pastor in the US, up and coming. The basis of their argument which I have heard so many time is... you cannot lose your salvation, because if you did "lose" it you were never really a 'Christian' Well Duuuu....that is such a disingenuous disservice not to make anyone feel bad and give them false hope without requiring them to understand the responsibility we have to become like Him.

That view is not a I am her now and I am walking into the unknown...Help me please!!

It is a I am there already, and those that didn't make it, you never really believed.

What a **crook of crap!!** The irresponsibility of today's preachers to hold such a view rather than take the entirety of their congregation and look them in the eye and say:

"Looks the idea of losing your Salvation is not a God merciless issue, it is a You not having the faith and courage to ask what He is calling you too" "Now let me show you and I am willing to walk with you as a brother through that Journey of metamorphosis" ***

The growing season does not last forever.

- There comes a moment when the net is full.
- There comes a harvest.
- There comes a separation.
- There comes a judgment.
- There comes a Kingdom fully revealed.

And suddenly the treasure and pearl become even more important.

Because Jesus has just told you: **what you are holding onto is temporary.**

V. JESUS HAS MADE THE CHOICE INCREDIBLY SIMPLE

Put all four parables together.

The Mustard Seed:

Don't underestimate the Kingdom because of how small it presently appears.

The Yeast:

Let the Kingdom penetrate and transform every part of you.

The Treasure/Pearl:

Once you recognize what you've been offered, surrender everything necessary to possess it.

The Net:

And don't delay forever—the age is moving toward a conclusion.

That is incredibly simple.

See it.

Receive it.

Let it transform you.

Choose it above everything else.

And remain in it until the end.

VI. AND THIS IS THE RESURRECTED HEART

When I put all of Matthew 13 together, I don't think Jesus is trying to make the Kingdom complicated.

Quite the opposite.

He's making the human heart understandable.

The problem isn't that God has made salvation impossible to understand.

The problem is that **sin makes simple surrender incredibly difficult.**

- We want control.
- We want the world.
- We want security.
- We want recognition.
- We want our own way.
- We want Jesus—but sometimes we want Jesus **without selling the field.**

And Jesus keeps lovingly bringing us back:

You don't understand the value of what I am offering you.

The resurrected heart is slowly learning to see differently.

It recognizes:

- **This Kingdom is real.**
- **This life is temporary.**
- **The harvest is coming.**
- **Resurrection is coming.**
- **Jesus is worth everything.**

And therefore surrender isn't God stealing our lives from us.

Surrender is finally recognizing where real life was hiding all along.

Closing:

I would close your entire parable section around this thought:

Jesus has shown us the soil.

He has shown us the seed.

He has shown us the wheat and the tares.

He has shown us the growing season.

He has shown us the treasure.

And now He has shown us the net.

There is a Kingdom coming.

Right now it can appear small like a mustard seed.

Right now it works quietly like yeast.

Right now many walk right past it like treasure hidden in a field.

But one day the net will be pulled onto the shore and what was hidden will become visible.

So Jesus' question throughout these parables is ultimately very simple:

Now that I have shown you the Kingdom—what will you do with it?

The resurrected heart answers:

I see the treasure.

I believe You.

Take everything.

Make me Yours.

And prepare me for the harvest.

Because I want to be with you!!