

Matthew 13:44: The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then **in his joy** he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Intro: We are studying the parables Jesus told about the kingdom of heaven. Today we come to a parable about the value/worth of the kingdom of heaven/kingdom of God/kingdom of our Father/kingdom of the Son of Man = **JOY!**

- The point of this parable is not that you can buy the kingdom. You cannot buy your entrance into the kingdom of heaven. **GOSPEL question!**

John Piper: The point here is not that you buy the kingdom or barter for the kingdom or negotiate for the kingdom. The kingdom of God is received without pay, like a poor child, not a rich business man. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (5:3). "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it" (10:15). "You received without paying; give without pay" (10:8).

Isaiah 55:1: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

- **David Platt:** The story of the man who finds a treasure in a field may sound strange to our ears, but remember that Jesus is telling this parable in a day when treasure could not be stored in a safety deposit boxes or well-protected banks. Instead, people would simply bury their greatest possessions in a remote place.

- **Shai Linne:** The kingdom of heaven is so valuable that it's worth [joyfully] sacrificing anything to get it.

- **John Piper:** The kingdom of God is so valuable that losing everything on earth, but getting the kingdom, is a happy trade-off. Having the omnipotent, saving reign of Christ in our lives is so valuable that, if we lose everything, in order to have it, it is a joyful sacrifice.

If I told you that if you sell everything you own this afternoon, I will give you 100 trillion dollars to replace it. And I'll give everything you own back, but brand new and better. And I'll also give back every special keep sake or sentimental belonging & you'll cherish it even more! Would you go sell everything this afternoon? Yes! With joy!

- **Jim Elliot:** He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what He cannot lose.

- **Ligon Duncan:** The kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a field. And a certain man unexpectedly comes upon it while he's digging and he sells everything that he has in order to buy it. Jesus, in this parable, indicates that the treasure is hidden to many. Not all will see the value of the kingdom of heaven. Not even all those in Israel will see the value of the kingdom of heaven. Notice three aspects to the story. **First of all**, the treasure is hidden. It is not openly displayed for all. Not all see the value of the treasure. **Secondly**, notice that the treasure is found unexpectedly. This man was not in the field digging for treasure. He was digging for something else. Perhaps he was plowing his field. And he stumbles upon this treasure. So he wasn't even looking for it when he found it. And **finally**, notice **this treasure is worth everything**.

1. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because It Is A Kingdom That Will Never End

- **Luke 1:32-33:** He will be great & will be called the Son of the Most High. & the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, & he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, & of his **kingdom** there will be no end.

- **Hebrews 1:8:** But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your **kingdom**."

- **Revelation 11:15:** Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, & there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the **kingdom of our Lord & of his Christ, & he shall reign** forever and ever."

2. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy & Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because The Least In This Kingdom Is Greater Than The Greatest Man Ever Born When Jesus Was Alive

Luke 7:28: I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the **kingdom of God** is greater than he.

3. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because It Is Our Father's Kingdom

- **Luke 11:2:** And he said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your **kingdom** come.'"
- **1 Jn 3:1:** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; & so we are

4. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because If You Seek First This Kingdom, Everything Else Will Be Added To You

Luke 12:22-34: And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?

²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰ For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, seek his **kingdom**, and these things will be added to you. ³² "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

5. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because You Will Receive Great Reward In This Life And In The Life To Come Eternal Life

Luke 18:18-30: And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" ²¹ And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²³ But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. ²⁴ Jesus, looking at him with sadness, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the **kingdom of God!** ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God." ²⁸ And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." ²⁹ And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the **kingdom of God**, ³⁰ who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

6. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because You Will Be With Jesus In Paradise

- **Luke 23:42-43:** And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into **your kingdom**." ⁴³ And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

- **Luke 14:26:** If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

- **Philippians 1:21:** For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

- **Philippians 3:8:** Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

7. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because It Is A Matter Of Righteousness, Peace, And Joy In The Holy Spirit

- **Romans 14:17:** For the **kingdom of God** is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

- **John 3:3:** Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the **kingdom of God**.

8. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because There Will Be No Sin There

1 Corinthians 6:9-11: Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the **kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the **kingdom of God**.¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

9. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because All Of God's And Our Enemies Will Be Destroyed

1 Corinthians 15:23-26: But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.²⁴ Then comes the end, when he delivers the **kingdom to God the Father** after destroying every rule and every authority and power.²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

10. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because We Will Receive New Glorified, Immortal, Imperishable Bodies

1 Corinthians 15:50-57: I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the **kingdom of God**, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

11. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because It's The Kingdom Of God's Beloved Son Where There's No More Darkness, There's Redemption, And There's The Forgiveness Of All Our Sins

Colossians 1:13-14: He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the **kingdom of his beloved Son**,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

You will not go to hell! You have been saved from hell forever!

John Piper: I was listening a couple weeks ago to a message by another pastor and he told the story of his sister who lost her husband to cancer earlier in the year. He was in his fifties and had been a faithful follower of Christ. She was sitting by his special bed set up for him at home, wiping his forehead in his last hours. She seemed steady and joyful. One visitor became irritated and asked, "How can you be so happy when something so evil is happening?" She answered, "My husband deserves to go to hell (like you and me). And because of Christ, in a few hours my husband will be with God in heaven. Is that not worth rejoicing about?"

12. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because The LORD Will Always Stand By Us And Ensure We Make It There Safely

2 Timothy 4:16-18: At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them!¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into **his heavenly kingdom**. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

13. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because It Is A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken

Hebrews 12:28-29: Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a **kingdom** that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

14. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because There You Will Worship The King Forever And You Will Reign On The Earth

Revelation 5:9-10: And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a **kingdom** and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

15. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because The Accuser Of The Brothers Will Be Thrown Down And Accuse You No More Forever

Revelation 12:10-11: And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the **kingdom of our God** and **the authority of his Christ** have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

16. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because God Is There

Psalms 16:2, 11: I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." . . . You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

17. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because There You Will Enter Into The Very Joy Of God

Matthew 25:21: His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."

18. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because In This Kingdom You Will Realize That All Suffering, Tragedies, Losses, And Sadness's Will Only Multiply Your Everlasting Happiness

- **Genesis 50:20:** As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good

- **Romans 8:28:** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

- **Romans 8:18:** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

19. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because In This Kingdom You Will Be Given Everything Needed To Fill You With Greatest Joy And Satisfaction That Will Never End And Will Increase Forever

- **Romans 8:32:** He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

- **1 Corinthians 3:21-23:** So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future - all are yours, ²³ and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

- **Ephesians 2:6-7:** and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

20. The Kingdom Of Heaven Is A Treasure That Brings Greatest Joy And Is Worth Sacrificing Everything To Receive Because There Will Be No More Tears, Death, Crying, Or Pain There Anymore Forever

Revelation 21:4: He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

What do you need to sacrifice or get rid of and leave behind to gain Christ? And do it from joy?! Sin?

Any Weight? (**Hebrews 12:1-2:** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith)

A relationship? A job? A family? A habit? A way you are spending your time?

Christ Jesus Is The Treasure Great
We Will Sell All And All Else Hate
Compared To Him Who's Joy Innate
To Live Is Christ For He'll Elate
To Die Is Gain For He's The Gate
To Greatest Joys We Await
He Died And Rose There's No Debate
A Whole New People To Create
Who Find In Him Our All And Wait
On Him, His Word, He Cuts It Straight
He Shall Forever Fascinate
In Him All Pleasures Culminate
He Is The Kingdom's Treasure Weight
So Trust The Son And Contemplate
His Boundless Beauty Celebrate!