

**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!

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

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!

**Ligon Duncan:** **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**

**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 At Jesus' First Coming**

**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**

**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**

**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**

**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**." <sup>43</sup> 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 & does not hate his own father & mother & wife & children & brothers & sisters, yes, & even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. (**Reader:** We can't put anything above, beside, or below Christ)

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

**1) To live is Christ: P. T. O'Brien:** Paul asserts that living has no meaning apart from Christ; he is the object, motive, inspiration, and goal of all that the apostle does.

**2) To die is gain:** To die and be with Christ is far better than anything you have or experience here on earth!

- **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

**J. C. Ryle:** The saddest part of all good things of earth is their instability. Riches make themselves wings & flee away; youth & beauty are but for a few years; strength of body soon decays; mind & intellect are soon exhausted. All is perishing. All is fading. All is passing away. But there is one splendid exception to this general rule, & that is the friendship of Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus is a friend who never changes. There is no fickleness about Him: those He loves, He loves unto the end. Husbands have been known to forsake their wives; parents have been

known to forsake their children; human vows & promises of faithfulness have often been forgotten. Thousands have been neglected in their poverty & old age, who were honored when they were rich & young. But Christ never changed His feelings towards one of His friends. He is 'the same yesterday, today, & forever' (Heb 13:8)."

**Denny Burk Article: 2 Corinthians 11:2-3:** For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

. . . how many Christians treat their betrothal as an opportunity for infidelity? When you become a Christian, you become betrothed to Christ. And your whole life between now and the second coming of Christ is one long walk down the aisle. How many of you are taking your eyes off Christ to see if there are any other cute alternatives in the room? Paul says that he is jealous to make sure that he presents Christ's bride to him not as a roving-eyed adulteress but as a single-minded, pure bride. Paul means for all of us not to be roving-eyed adulteresses but to be single-minded in our devotion to Christ. We never take our eyes off the prize, and the prize is Christ. We are not looking around the room for alternatives. If someone calls our name to present themselves as a better alternative, we don't even turn our heads. Our eyes are fixed on the prize and all other voices and concerns fade from view. Is that the way you live your life? With single-minded devotion to Christ? That is the aim that Paul had for the Corinthians, and that is the aim that the Lord has for all of us.

### **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**.

**GOSPEL!: 1) Righteousness: Romans 4:5:** And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness

**2) Peace: Romans 5:1:** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we<sup>1</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**3) Joy In The Holy Spirit: Galatians 5:22:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy . . . .

### **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,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the **kingdom of God**.<sup>11</sup> 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.<sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he delivers the **kingdom to God the Father** after destroying every rule and every authority and power.<sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.<sup>26</sup> 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.<sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,<sup>52</sup> 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. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> 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." <sup>55</sup> "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> 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**, <sup>14</sup> 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! <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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, <sup>29</sup> 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, <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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, <sup>22</sup> whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future - all are yours, <sup>23</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> 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!