

GOD'S KINGDOM – THE GREATEST TREASURE

Matthew 13:44-46

Three parables conclude the 7 told by our Lord as recorded by Matthew 13. The last of these – the Parable of the Net & the Fish – once again warns of the coming Day of Judgment when not fish, but people, shall be separated by God, some to be cast into hell (like the Wheat & Tarres, vv.42,43).

But the two in verses 44-46 will be our focus this morning:

1. Two pictures: one point –

The Kingdom of Heaven is worth everything you might have.

The Treasure in the Field & the Pearl of Greatest Value

Don't be distracted by questions about the details.

Get the point:

The Kingdom of Heaven is supremely valuable above everything else you might own or wish you owned.

See that and let nothing keep you from God's Kingdom!

The Kingdom of Heaven is not a nice add-on to a life full of things you actually love more.

You must be willing to give up everything to have it.

2. Calculating the worth of things & the worth of God's Kingdom.

How do we make such evaluations?

In this world we know how to calculate worth and what is worth great sacrifice.

What is more valuable than God Himself and eternal life with Him?

What makes His Kingdom so supremely valuable?

All that God promises & Jesus died on the cross to purchase for us.

3. Whatever you love that might keep you from God's Kingdom is not worth the loss of your eternal soul in hell.

This does connect to the Parable of the Net & the Fish.

If you decide that the passing treasures and pleasures of this world

Are worth more to you than Christ & His Kingdom – you give up

Eternal treasures & pleasures in heaven for eternal anguish under God's judgment.

It is NOT a matter just of money & things.

What stands between people & God's Kingdom of grace & love?

- pet sins, you do not want to give up & would rather keep if you must give them up to have Jesus.

self-righteousness & moral/spiritual pride – Philippians 3:4-10

Whatever would keep you from Christ & His Kingdom – give it up to have Him and receive treasures from heaven.

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." - missionary Jim Elliot, martyred by Auca Indians