

Who Do You Say That I Am?

Seeing and Delighting in Jesus through an Expository Journey through the **Gospel of Matthew**

155- Jesus Teaches the People in Parables- Part 11 The Infinite Value of the Kingdom of Heaven

Church June 14, 2026

Matthew 13:44-46

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

**45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls,
46 and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.**

*To the Glory of God the Father; God the Son;
and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

In these two Verses, Jesus said the Kingdom of Heaven is “like” two things:

1. A Treasure
2. A Pearl of great Value

... and so, I want to explore those two Realities, this Morning.

So, just what IS the “*Kingdom of Heaven*”? From verse 3 until these two verses that were just read to us- Jesus has been telling us what the Kingdom of Heaven- IS. And by telling us what the Kingdom of Heaven IS- He was also telling us what it is NOT.

And so far, in **Matthew 13**, we have learned:

- Jesus taught about the “*Kingdom of Heaven*” or the “*Kingdom of God*”- as opposed to the “*Kingdom of Israel*”.
- Jesus taught about the Kingdom of Heaven in Parables in order to pronounce a Divine Judgment on the “*Covenant Breakers*”
- The “*Word of the Kingdom*”- is the Gospel preached

- God has to sovereignly transform the “Soil” (human Nature)- in the Miracle of the New Birth- in order for anyone to hear; receive; believe; and embrace the Word of the Kingdom
- Those who hear; receive; believe; and embrace the “*Word of the Kingdom*” and bear Fruit from it- are the ONLY ones who will live eternally in the Kingdom
- It is God’s Will to *purify* the Kingdom by removing the Tares- *first*
- The Kingdom of Heaven will begin very small and seemingly insignificant- but after a long period of Time- it will *dominate* the whole Earth
- The Kingdom of Heaven will act like Leaven and will infiltrate, influence, and convert every Area of human Existence on Earth- BEFORE Jesus returns

... and today we learn the Kingdom of Heaven is both a “Treasure” as well as a “Pearl of great Value”!

But from the very Beginning of our verse-by-verse “Journey” through the **Gospel of Matthew**, we have learned several other things about the Kingdom of Heaven:

- ONLY those who repent may enter the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 3:2; 4:17)
- The Kingdom of Heaven ONLY belongs to a people, who display certain Fruit:
 - The “Poor in Spirit” (5:3)
 - Those who have been persecuted for Righteousness’ sake (5:10)
 - Whoever keeps and teaches the Commandments of God (5:19)
 - Those, who Righteousness, surpasses that of the Scribes and Pharisees (5:20)
- NOT all, who say, “Lord, Lord” will enter the Kingdom (7:21)
- Those who DO the Will of the Father (7:21)
- Gentiles from pagan Lands will enter the Kingdom while the “sons of the Kingdom” will be cast out (8:11&12)
- The Least in the Kingdom is greater than John the Baptist (11:11)
- From the Days of John the Baptist until Jesus’ Ministry- the Kingdom suffers Violence and violent Men take it by Force

... and as Time goes on- we will learn even MORE!

But, for the sake of us arriving at the correct and full Context- we MUST understand that when Jesus taught about the “Kingdom of Heaven” or the “Kingdom of God”- He was NOT talking about the “Kingdom of Israel”.

Now just a few Decades after the 2nd Temple was built on the very Site of Solomon's Temple- God the Holy Spirit "moved" on the Prophet Malachi. And this man ministered in Jerusalem during the "*Persian Period*". And he spoke the Word of the Lord to the Jewish people for about 30 years- until approximately 430BC. And from the End of Malachi's "Burden" until around late September, during *Yom Kippur* (the Day of Atonement) of 6BC- when Zacharias (of the Division of Abijah) was ministering in the Temple, and the Angel Gabriel suddenly appeared to him- was a Period of approximately 424 years! And during that Period of around 400 years- there was "*Total Silence*" from Heaven!

So, for 4 Centuries- there was NO angelic Appearance; NO Prophet; NO Miracle; NO Sign; NO Wonder; NO Word from God of any sort; and NO celestial Activity! Just Silence!

And this long- extended Period of Silence frightened the Jewish people! And yet, instead of wholesale Repentance- the Jews (except for a Remnant) completely *departed* from the 39 inspired Books during this "400 years of Silence"; and they *fabricated* several things that God NEVER told them to do- such as:

- Created the four major religious Divisions (Pharisees; Sadducees; Essenes; Zealots)
- Created the entire Concept of "Synagogues"
- Embraced a pagan King (Herod) to *refurbish* and *expand* the Temple in Jerusalem
- Developed an unbiblical Eschatology about the promised Messiah and the Kingdom of Israel

... so, if was during that 400 years of Silence when the Pharisees developed their Eschatological View of what the Messiah would do once He got here- that was completely foreign to the Old Testament! And that is what the Jews of 1st Century Israel as well as both the Disciples of John the Baptist and the Disciples of Jesus had been taught their entire Lives! And that is one Reason it was so hard for them to grasp what Jesus was teaching.

Now keep in mind, all of this false Teaching about the Messiah was in Addition to the Pharisees almost completely "rewriting" the Understanding of the Law of Moses itself; as well as the Specifics of how to obey it!

So, by the 1st Century- the "Religion" that the overwhelming Majority of the Jews were being taught and were following had very little in Common with the 39 Books of the Old Testament!¹ The "Jewish Religion" of the 1st Century was wholly a "Work of Fiction" at the Hands of the Pharisees- that didn't have the

¹ That Reality has continued to this Day

Power to forgive a single Sin or save a single Soul! And that is true to this Day with modern Judaism.

And that explains the frightening Hostility that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees! Jesus did NOT think that the Pharisees were noble people, who were sincerely trying to please God- but were simply off a bit on their Theology. NO! Jesus confronted and condemned those religious Hypocrites to their Face! And I would remind you that during the 3-1/2 year Ministry of Jesus on the Earth- the Pharisees represent the ONLY Group of people that Jesus NEVER said anything Good about! I mean Jesus fed; and healed; and saved; and worked with people from every Group imaginable during His earthly Ministry- even the despised Roman Soldiers! But to the Pharisees- Jesus had ONLY Contempt and Condemnation!

Now please look at **Romans 14:14-23** with me:

14 I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

15 For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

16 Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil;

17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

18 For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

20 Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

21 It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.

22 The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

... and from that Passage, we see:

- The Kingdom of God/Heaven is NOT mainly “Realm” or “Place” but “Rule” or “Reign”.
- The Reign of the Kingdom is specifically Jesus’ *saving* or *redeeming* Reign.

- The Kingdom is being manifested in Power when Demons and Unbelief and Unrighteousness are being defeated and Salvation, Righteousness, Peace, and Joy are happening.
- This “Reign” is Present- in Part; but will be fully Consummated at the 2nd Coming of Christ.

So, the Blessings we have now in Christ are very Great (ie. Forgiveness; imputed Righteousness; Acceptance with the Father; no Condemnation; the Fellowship of Jesus by His Spirit in our Lives; progressive Sanctification into His Likeness; Gifts of the Spirit; Usefulness in Ministry; ALL things working together for our Good; etc.), but the Fullness of our Inheritance awaits the 2nd Coming of Christ (NO more Sinning; NO more Sickness; NO more Injury or Calamity; NO more Depression or spiritual Warfare; NO more War; NO more Death!) All that will come with the final Consummation of the Kingdom!

Now the “Kingdom of God” and the “Kingdom of Christ” and the “Kingdom of Heaven” are the same. God reigns wherever Christ reigns! And Christ reigns wherever God reigns!

And the Music- the Symphony of the Kingdom- began playing in the Upper Room in that Prayer Meeting with 120 scared and weak Souls. And that Music has *continued* to play now for over 2 Millennia! But the Music is growing LOUDER- because there are MANY MORE people; and MANY MORE Instruments playing in this Symphony now than there was when it started! And that Music- that Symphony will continue to grow LOUDER and use MORE Instruments; and will involve MORE people- until it reaches the Crescendo- and the final Note is played! And that is when Jesus will return to this Earth! Just yesterday, I read where the Parliament of Papua New Guinea has *officially* amended the National Constitution to declare its Christian Identity!²

So, when **the Book of the Revelation** talks about the “*Throne of God*” it DOES NOT refer to a *physical, literal* Throne. How do we know that? Because even though God is absolutely ruling and reigning- God the Father is “*Immaterial*” and DOES NOT have a *physical* Body in which to “sit down” on a *literal* Throne! So, how should we comprehend the “*Throne of God*”? The Apostle John wrote things like:

- **Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!**
(7:10)

² **Trinity Acknowledgement:** Formally declares God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit as the creators and sustainers of the universe and the source of authority. **Bible Recognition:** The Bible is legally recognized as a national symbol.

- **The Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd (7:17).**
- **The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it [the New Jerusalem] (22:3)**

... and that teaches that the **“Throne of God”** is actually the **“Seat” or “Place” or “Position”** of God’s Authority and Power (Omnipotence)!

So, the **“Throne of God”** is also the **“Reign of Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of Heaven”**! So, the **“Kingdom of Heaven”** is the **“Saving Reign of Christ”**- or what John MacArthur referred to as: the **“Sphere of Salvation”**! It is the **“Saving Reign of Christ”** in His Capacity- right now- ruling and reigning at the **“Right Hand of the Majesty on High”**- **UNTIL ALL of God’s Enemies are made a Footstool for His Feet! (Psalm 110:1)**

And that **“Rule”** and that **“Reign”** in the **“Sphere of Salvation”** is *partly* Present right now; and will be *finalized* in the Future! So, the **“Kingdom of Heaven”** is the present and future **“Saving Reign of God”** in, by, and through Jesus Christ! So, please read **Matthew 13:44** again with me:

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

... and the key word this Morning in this Parable is NOT the word, **“Kingdom”**- but the word, **“Joy”**!

... from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field

... so, the *infinite* Value of the Kingdom of Heaven is what produced the Joy in this Man! Or another Way to say this is:

Joy is infinite Value- Realized!

When the infinite Value of the Kingdom of God is realized in an Individual- the Product is: JOY! Now let’s see if that’s True. Please look at **Hebrews 10:32-34**:

32 But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,
33 partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated.

34 For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.

Now this Writer, who was also the Pastor of this small Church- made up almost entirely of Jews- in modern Day Turkey, around 68AD- wrote this Epistle to three different Groups of Jews, who were physically in his Church:

1. Genuinely saved Jews
2. Jews, who were *intellectually* Curious about Jesus
3. Jews, who were bored out of their minds and couldn't care less about Jesus

... and, periodically, he goes back and forth between those three Groups in this Epistle. Here, in **Hebrews 10:32-34**- he is addressing the Jews, who had been genuinely saved by Grace and through Faith in Jesus and in His finished Work.

And he is *infallibly* encouraging them to,

remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings...

... and then he goes into some detail of just how those Jews had suffered for the Sake of the Gospel and the Name of Jesus Christ...

partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated.

... so, those Jews had *personally* "shared" in the Persecution that had come on the Believers of this small Church- AND- they had suffered being made a public Spectacle as well.

But then the unknown Writer gives two very specific Ways in which those 1st Century Jewish Christians had suffered at the Hands of evil Men- for the Sake of the Gospel and the Name of Christ:

1. **you showed sympathy to the prisoners**
2. **[you] accepted joyfully the seizure of your property**

Now "showing Sympathy to Prisoners" back in the early Days of the Church meant several things:

- You *physically* went to the Prison to meet with those Prisoners
- You gave them a Bath

- You gave them food
- You treated their Wounds
- You prayed with them
- You spoke encouraging Words to them

... and that is because the Reason those people were in Jail- is NOT because they had written bad checks or stolen Property nor because they had hurt or murdered anyone.

No, those people were in Prison because they were Christians! And because their Godliness was obviously a Threat to the pagan, evil, ruling Authorities!

But because they were in Prison because they were being persecuted for their Faith- those who visited them- were, many Times, imprisoned along with them! So, “showing Sympathy to the Prisoners” was a very Dangerous thing to do- but one that was COMMANDED by the Lord as well as the Apostles! And so, in spite of the Danger- it was a COMMON Practice!

But look again at the 2nd Way those 1st Century Jewish Saints endured Persecution:

[you] accepted joyfully the seizure of your property

This phrase means that their physical, material, and tangible Property that they *legally* owned- was taken from them! In other words, their Property was Confiscated!

Now keep in mind- there was NO Insurance to help them recover the Value of their stolen Property. And the governing Authorities would NOT help them- because the governing Authorities very well may have been who stole it! So, they just lost it all! But look at a small little eight letter word in the middle of that Sentence:

JOYFULLY

... so, these Believers did NOT merely “accept” the Seizure of their Property- they JOYFULLY accepted that Persecution against them!

But what is it that would empower a human Being to be able to JOYFULLY accept the evil and probably illegal Seizure of their Property? The Writer went on to say:

... knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.

These people knew that the “Possession” they had in Jesus Christ was so much BETTER and so much longer lasting- that the Loss of their Property was, by Comparison- as NOTHING!

So, it was the *unshakable* Knowledge of the *infinite* Value of the Kingdom of Heaven- that produced this JOY in those people- even in the midst of great Persecution!

Friends, THIS is the Kind of Christianity that I want! You can keep the so-called “Christianity” of the Health and Prosperity Peddlers- just give me THIS!

Somehow, those 1st Century Jewish Saints had come to realize the infinite Value of the Kingdom of Heaven. And the Result of that infinite Value being *realized*- was JOY! And that’s what Jesus said about the Man in **Matthew 13:44**:

... from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

... and likewise, the “Merchant” in verses 45&46. This man,

... upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

... and Jesus said the Kingdom of Heaven was like these two people!

The Kingdom of Heaven is so Wonderful; so Glorious; so Beautiful; so Important; and so infinitely Valuable- that we should be willing to “sell all that we have” to get it!

The Kingdom of Heaven is so Valuable that losing everything on Earth, is a happy trade-off. Having the Omnipotent, Saving Reign of Jesus Christ in our Lives is so Valuable that, if we lose everything, in order to have it- it is a joyful Sacrifice!

So, let’s read this slowly and see it carefully. Jesus began by saying,

“The kingdom of heaven . . .”

... and I am taking that in its full, biblical Context of the Reign of God in Christ- triumphing over everything that stands between you and everlasting Life and Joy- IF you will treasure it more than anything else!

In other words, I think we can treat the Kingdom of Heaven here almost synonymously with Salvation or with being reconciled to God through the Work of Christ! Because the Kingdom of Heaven is the Rule of God to save us; and to bring us from Destruction into the Enjoyment of Christ forever!

Let’s keep reading in verse 44:

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field”

... so, the Focus is on the Value of the Kingdom! It is the Worth of having God ruling over you and, for you, over everything else. It's not hard to see why that is so Valuable. If the Omnipotent, all-wise God is ruling over all things for your Joy, everything must be working for your Good, no matter how painful it may temporarily be right now! Because in the End God will *triumph* over all Evil and all Pain! So, this Kingdom is a real "Treasure"! Now keep reading:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

The obvious Point here is that the Kingdom of God is so Valuable that losing everything on this earth- in the Pursuit of acquiring the Kingdom- is a happy trade-off! That's the main and the obvious Point of this Parable! And the Apostle Paul expresses this very thing in **Philippians 3:7&8:**

7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

So, it isn't that what God gives to us- is *worthless*- or that those Gifts have NO Value at all. That isn't True. Whatever God gives is Valuable! But there is a "*surpassing* Value"! and look where that *surpassing* Value is found:

In Knowing Christ Jesus!

So, there is an *infinite* Value in the Kingdom of Heaven! So, much so, that selling ALL that we have- is worth having it! And *knowing* that; *understanding* that; and *believing* that- produces great Joy- even in *Persecution!*

Okay, that is where most Sermons about this Parable would stop. But NOT this one. Because I want to take this a bit further.

Now the Parable of the Pearl of great Value is very straight forward and easy to understand. But the Parable of the Treasure in the Field doesn't make Sense to me. It never has. And after almost 55 years of reading it- it hasn't made sense to me- until this Week!

This Parable has always seemed to be just a little off- and I want to know WHY! Please look closely again at verse 44:

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field

Here are the main Points of this Parable:

- The Treasure (the Kingdom of Heaven) was ALREADY hidden in a Field
- A Man found the hidden Treasure
- He hid the Treasure again- AFTER he found it
- He sells ALL he has to buy the Field

... but those Points raise some Questions to me:

- Why was the Treasure hidden to begin with?
- Who hid it?
- How did the Man find the Treasure- unless he was trespassing on somebody's else's Field?
- Why did he hide the Treasure again AFTER he found it?
- Why did he sell ALL that he had to buy the Field- but NOT the Treasure?

Now I truly believe that Jesus was saying something much *deeper* and much more Important in this Parable than He was in the Parable of the Pearl of great Value.

In the Parable of the Pearl of great Value- the Man sold all he had to buy the Pearl! But here, the Man sold all he had to buy the Field! So, why the Difference? If these two Parables were talking about the same thing- it would seem to me that the man would have sold all he had to buy the Treasure. That would be consistent with the Merchant, who sold all he had to buy the Pearl. But he didn't and therein lies my Struggle.

Now many say the Answer is simply that it was "Illegal", according to ancient Jewish Laws, for the man to keep the Treasure after he found it in the Field. So, they say the Law *compelled* him to have to buy the entire Field in order to *legally* allow others access to the Treasure! And they say the Man hid the Treasure after initially finding it- simply to keep it Safe from Robbers.

Now I believe all of that is True. But my Problem is that it was also Illegal for the Man to be on that Field in the first place! So, while I think there is great Wisdom in what many teach about this Parable- with all due Respect- there are still some Problems that need to be overcome here.

And so, I dug around and found out that around 1,630 years ago, one of the most brilliant Christian Leaders, who ever lived (Augustine) wrote this- in the only Book, I am aware of, that deals *solely* with the Confession of Sin of the Writer:

*"He loves Thee too little, who loves anything together with Thee, which he loves not for Thy sake."*³

Now, in the typical Way Augustine wrote- this Statement is a bit convoluted and hard to grasp. So, let me break it down for you:

- Whoever loves God- does NOT love God *enough*...
- IF He loves *anything* God has given...
- But does NOT love that Gift- for the "Sake of" or for the "Glory of" God

So, this Statement is a sincere Warning to ONLY the genuine Believer- to make sure that we are actually loving; enjoying; and worshipping the one, true, and living God- for WHO He is- rather than simply being somewhat *enamored* with this Divine Being- because of all the Stuff He gives to us! In other Words, this is simply another Way of assessing our own Hearts as to what we perceive the true Value of the Universe- really is! So, please look at two verses with me:

Romans 5:10

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

... and ...

2Corinthians 5:20

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

This teaches that the *ultimate* Goal of Salvation is NOT merely to miss Hell and to go to Heaven or to live in the Kingdom! The Bible teaches that Salvation causes wicked Rebels to be reconciled to God *Himself*! And that tells me that God is BETTER than Heaven or the Kingdom! And now, in light of this- I want to *revisit* **Philippians 3:7&8:**

7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

³ Augustine; *Confessions*; Book X; Chapter 29. If you are able to acquire this Book- it would be well worth it for your Soul's sake.

8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

... again, this goes way *beyond* the Kingdom!

These verses have to do with the Reality that, yes, the Kingdom of Heaven is of an *infinite* Value! The Kingdom of Heaven is infinitely MORE Valuable than any other natural Possession on this Earth! YES! YES! YES! But I beg you, dear Friends, to NOT stop there! I beg you to go one Step *further* and say,

God- in all three Persons- is infinitely MORE Valuable than the Kingdom!

... so, I pray that God will *empower* us to be able to believe and say,

- God is MORE Valuable than ANY of His Gifts
- God is MORE Valuable than Heaven
- God is MORE Valuable than the City of New Jerusalem
- God is MORE Valuable than the Kingdom of Heaven
- God is MORE Valuable than Salvation

... and that means that Salvation does NOT merely bring us into Heaven and the Kingdom!

Now it DOES do that! I'm NOT *minimizing* us going to Heaven and living in the Kingdom! But that's NOT all that Salvation does. And it isn't even the most Important nor the most Valuable thing Salvation does! Because Salvation causes wicked Sinners to be...

... reconciled to God!

... just God! And THAT is infinitely MORE Valuable than the Kingdom!

Remember, God *made* Heaven! God *created* Salvation! And God *fashioned* the Kingdom! So, as Wonderful and as Glorious as all these things are- they are but Creations of God! And whoever is the Creator- is infinitely BETTER and infinitely MORE Valuable than *anything* He creates!

So, in this Parable- it was God, who created the Field in the first Place- which is the World. And it was God, who created the Treasure- which is the surpassing Value of knowing Jesus and of being reconciled to God. And it was God, who "hid" that Treasure in the Field that belongs to Him- so that ONLY those God has chosen would have access to it!

And so, in this Parable- Jesus is the “Man”, who walked onto the Field to *uncover* the Treasure- precisely because Jesus already has the Authority to possess EVERYTHING God has created! For Example, **The Revelation 5:2-5** says,

2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?"

3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the book or to look into it.

4 Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it;

5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

... now I realize this Scene has to do with other things besides this particular Field and this particular Treasure. But the Point in bringing this up is that God the Father has “handed over” ALL things to Jesus- and doesn’t withhold *anything* from Him! And that is what it means when the Apostle John said that ONLY Jesus was “Worthy” to open the Book and break the Seals! In **Matthew 11:27**- Jesus said:

All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

... yet the ONLY Way *we* may have access to this Treasure is by being IN Jesus Christ and having “Union with Him” through Salvation! And the “Sphere of Salvation” IS the Kingdom of Heaven!

So, AFTER Jesus first finds and possesses the Treasure (because God the Father “handed it over to Him”)- He hid it again. Why? The Treasure is the “surpassing Value of knowing Jesus”; and of “being reconciled to God”! And that *infinite* Value- is found ONLY in the Kingdom of Heaven! And it is given- to ONLY those who are chosen to receive it- in Salvation! So, in that sense- it is “hidden”.

But in order to open the Field to ALL that God has chosen to save (from before the Foundation of the World)- Jesus had to pay the Price of “selling ALL that He had”- willingly giving His own Life- to purchase the Field- so that the Elect would be able to possess the Joy that comes ONLY from that surpassing Value!

So, YES- the Kingdom of Heaven is of infinite Value! It is MORE Valuable than any other natural Gift in this Life! But what is infinitely MORE Valuable than

the Kingdom itself- is the *surpassing* Value of knowing Jesus Christ AND of being reconciled to God! And that is what brings to us the Fullness of Joy!

Amen! Let's pray.

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