

Hidden Treasures

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

Topic:

HIDDEN TREASURES

Key Text: Matthew 13:44-46

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Study

Matthew 13:44-46

44 The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

46 when he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. The Lord Jesus Christ after telling His disciples about what would be the lots of the righteous and the unrighteous. He went further to give other short parables about the kingdom saying.

Matthew 13:44 KJV Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

Considering this parable carefully we would see that the kingdom of God is likened to a treasure.

What is a treasure?

It is something of great value or worth. If someone says that he treasures something or someone, it means that they take such person as rare or precious, and whatever is of great value would be cherished, and protected. One would not just expose it to the insecure environment where there is no proper watch.

There is an extent to which different things in our possession are treasured, some are greatly treasured while others do not really get cherished, the way a man sees a particular item and how important it is to him would make him value it, what is

of great value to a man can be of lesser value to another man. A man who has only one car would cherish the car and protect it more than the one that has many cars. Some people cherish material things such as bags, clothes, shoes, gold, silver, houses etc and cannot joke with anyone when it comes to the mishandling of these things.

In the olden days most ladies treasured their virginity and would never joke with anyone when it comes to that aspect of taking it away from them except their husbands but today virginity has become of lesser value to most people as only some values it. All depends on the amount of value placed on something by individuals.

Therefore the things of the world can lose its values. As at 1970s 1 naira was equivalent to \$1. The rich man at that time must have treasured that one naira so much. Some would have hidden it for future use because they treasured it. But today \$1 is close to 1000 naira. If a rich man at that time had hidden 1000 when it was equivalent to \$1000 and brings it out today how much things will he be able to buy today? it would only be able to buy what is not more than \$4 in value, that is what earthly treasures look like. But then the kingdom of God is likened to a treasure of great value which a man found out and wants to sell all that he has because of it.

The man found the treasure in a field and bought the field. He did not only buy the treasure but bought the field. Owning a land can be an asset, which would not depreciate in value but keep on appreciating. A land can be bought 10 years ago for \$5 and then sold today for \$50 that is how it is. The man in this parable made a wise investment. He understood the worth of the treasure, then bought everything surrounding it so that he will not be seen as a thief or trespasser. So he took all he had and sold them in order to be the legitimate owner of the field also with the treasure.

We can liken that treasure to be Christ's wisdom and knowledge and that field as Christ Himself to be a legitimate owner of that treasure, the man had to sell all he had and literally did not have any other thing to rely on apart from the land he had bought, there was no second choice for him anymore. He forsook all other things that might be of benefit to him to get a far more greater treasure.

Proverbs 23:23 KJV Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

These are all the things embedded in Christ who is also the truth. **Proverbs 4:7 KJV** Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. The man in the parable knew the importance of wisdom which is in the field "**Christ**" so he decided to have Christ first so that he would automatically get wisdom. **Colossians 2:3 KJV** in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. God has made Christ wisdom and righteousness and sanctification, redemption for us. The moment we have Him then we have bought a treasure of an inestimable value.

The wisdom and knowledge about the kingdom of God is hidden in Christ and only few are able to come to the awareness of this treasure and the one who cares is the one who sees the need to do all it will take to be in possession of this treasure. The man found it, he hid it so that another would not steal it away, then quickly takes a step to see that he acquired it. He hid it because of the joy that flooded his soul. When a man comes to the knowledge of the saving grace of The Lord Jesus Christ and comes to the understanding of the hidden treasures in Christ Jesus, his heart will be flooded with joy, those who come in contact with the saving grace of Christ will understand better how they felt when they found out what Christ can do and the salvation he has brought to make them candidates of the Kingdom. At that point, to gain the treasure is all they are after, they have found it now and took a step to get the full package.

Some found out the treasure, but walked away because they see no reason to value the great treasure because they are unable to see the depreciating aspects of the one they are holding onto. It looks like the original but not the original. Some keep on postponing when they would go and buy the field probably because they feel busy with other things like work, family, academics, ego, life, phone etc. While some have not even found the treasures at all not to talk about cherishing it. But for those who have found the truth and have the knowledge about the Kingdom of God they are expected to behave like that man, they need to quickly look for a way to acquire the kingdom of God through Christ without delay, and to be in possession of this treasure, selling every other property out is compulsory.

Those things that seems of great value and worth, that are precious must be put aside, in fact, sold out if they would hinder the purchase of this great treasure.

Philippians 3:7-8 KJV But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. [8] Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, The man in the parable counted every other thing as lost to gain Christ just like what Apostle Paul did.

Some people have not counted some of their achievements, positions, certificates, families, friends, business, jobs, mentality etc that are hindering them from gaining Christ as total rubbish. There are many who love their heretic pastors so much and cannot do without them, whereas, they have to part away with such pastors to lay on Christ because they're feeding them with heresies. For some, it is that business which does not give glory to God that they have to part ways with to own Christ fully. Those businesses such as hairdressing saloons, selling of beers & cigarettes, bet shops, football viewing centres, palm wine selling and dry Gin selling shops that is stopping them from laying hold on Christ, they still hold on to them and it has placed the kingdom of God far away from them. For some, it is their dead church that they cannot part ways with, they treasure the church to the point that no matter the evil and bad done in this church they'd not part ways with it to acquire Christ fully.

Unfortunately, some would keep complaining that it is their children that does not let them to lay hold on Christ the way they should. They would use the whole time they have to cater for their children and did not bother to lay hold on Christ in Whom the treasures of the kingdom of God is hidden.

For some it is ego, pride, picking calls in church during study and prayer, and skipping services because of businesses. All this set of people and others shows how much value they place on Christ and the things that has to do safety and damnation of their souls. They are less concerned about their souls for them to forsake all hindrances that can make them to get Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ says in **Luke 14:33 KJV** so likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not

all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. To be Christ's disciple. Jesus Christ is saying that you must part with "**all**", that is, "**everything**" that will stand between you and Him to lay hold on Him without that you are joking. Have you purchased the field to gain the treasures? or you find it hard to do away with things that have no eternal value? remember you have a choice to make.

This is where we'd end today's study, may we focus on things that really matters and leave irrelevant ones behind in Jesus Christ name, Amen.

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