

Matthew 13:44 The Parable of the Buried Treasure

Introduction: Can you imagine digging up a treasure that is worth a great fortune? Can you imagine what it would be like for the field where the treasure is buried to belong to somebody else? That is the dilemma of the man in this parable.

I. The giving of the parable, Verse 44.

- A. The word “again” calls attention that this is not the first time that Jesus had shown a likeness to the kingdom of heaven. (And again the kingdom of heaven is not like the treasure alone, but like the whole story about the treasure.)
- B. The treasure is buried, hidden in a field.
 - 1. It was apparently a treasure of great value.
 - 2. It was a common thing in that day for men to hide their treasure.
- C. Then one day the treasure was discovered.
 - 1. The man who found it was honest.
(If he had not been he would have taken it without trying to get legal claim.)
 - 2. He reburied the treasure, apparently in the same field.
 - 3. Then he sold all that he had and bought the field.
- D. It is worthy of note to observe that until the man found the treasure it was lost.
 - 1. Whoever had buried it was apparently dead.
 - 2. The man who owned the field did not know it was there.
(Else he would have claimed it before he sold the field.)
 - 3. It was no good to anybody lost in the field.

II. A misinterpretation of the parable.

- A. Since no interpretation of the parable is recorded, it is to be expected that it would be wrongly interpreted by somebody.
- B. It should be no surprise that the most popular interpretation is wrong.
 - 1. It holds that the treasure is salvation and that the lost sinner buys his salvation.
(By his works, etc.)
 - 2. But there is no way in this world that a lost sinner can buy his salvation.
(Not with money nor works.)

III. The key to its interpretation.

- A. Jesus gave the key in verse 38 when interpreting the parable of the tares.
(The field is the world in verse 38 and the field is the world in verse 44.)
- B. With that in mind it is not hard to see that the hidden treasure in the world is man himself.
 - 1. Not that man is hidden, but because of his fall into sin the real value of man is hidden.
 - 2. It is as though it were buried in sin.
- C. But because of God's great love for man, He could see a potential value.
(He could see the value of redeemed man.)
- D. And because of His great love for man He was willing to sell all that He possessed and redeem man.
 - 1. He gave up His home in heaven, His position on the throne, His fellowship with the Father.
 - 2. He gave up even His life's blood.
 - 3. He provided a way so that every man who would repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ would be saved. (Lost no more.)

E. He even redeemed the field.

1. The whole earth is under the curse of sin
2. The whole earth groans and travails to be redeemed from the curse of sin.
3. And it will be redeemed. (A new earth will be brought forth.)

F. There is no greater message for man today than the message of this parable.

1. Jesus Christ loved you and gave Himself for you that you might be saved.
2. And He has plans for you to live with Him forever in a place redeemed from sin.
3. He loves you and counts you as a part of his most treasured possessions – His redeemed people.

Conclusion:

1. Come today and trust in Jesus for salvation.
2. If you remain lost it will not be because Jesus does not love you.
3. It will not be because there is no way of salvation.
4. It will be only because you do not choose to trust in Jesus Christ.