

The Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price

Matthew 13:44-46

1. Relate the story of the parables in 25 words or less.
2. Were these parables addressed privately or to the multitude? (Matthew 13:36)
3. In the first parable, what did Jesus say the kingdom of heaven was like?
4. Why would treasure be hidden in a field?
5. Was the man looking for treasure when he found it?
6. Why do you think the man hid the treasure in a different place?

7. Do you think the man's failure to tell the owner of his find is morally objectionable or could what he did be legitimate?

8. What is represented by the field and the hidden treasure?

9. What does his joy of finding the treasure cause him to do?

10. Was his sacrifice in giving up all that he had to buy the field worth it?

11. Do you see a parallel between what the man did and what the apostle Paul did? (Philippians 3:8)

12. In the second parable, is the merchantman a seeker, a finder, or both?

13. What was the merchantman seeking?

14. Are all pearls of equal worth or value?

15. What did the merchantman do when he had found the “one pearl of great price”?

16. How is this parable like the previous one?

17. What does the selling and buying mean?

18. How does his action and that of the man who found the treasure compare to Solomon’s advice in Proverbs 23:23?

19. Is the “one pearl of great price” the kingdom of God, the knowledge of Christ, or Christ himself or are all these the same thing?

20. There were other pearls. Why didn’t the man buy one of the less expensive ones?

21. What did it cost the merchantman to obtain the “one pearl of great price”?

22. What is the message of the parables of the hidden treasure and the one pearl of great price?