

HEAVEN: PRICELESS TREASURE, PRICELESS PEARL

Matthew 13:44-46

By Raymond White

Jesus had much to say about heaven, much of it in parables. In this text, he compares heaven to a treasure and a pearl, valuable and more valuable than other things.

Matthew 13:44 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. *:45* Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearl; *:46* Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought.

So, what do we learn about heaven from these two parables?

1. **It is valuable.** A wise man would trade everything else that he has in the world to possess this one single most important thing.
2. **It is hidden.** The treasure was buried and found accidently. The pearl was found by diligent searching. Either way, whether found by accident or on purpose, it is found. What was once hidden, becomes seen and therefore available.
3. **It is personal.** One man found the treasure and one man found the pearl. They were not found by a committee, a club, or a church. You walk into heaven as in individual, single file, you and you alone. *Matthew 7:14* Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way...
4. **It is joyful.** Each man was elated to have found it. The kingdom of heaven should be our happiness. *John 15:11* These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.
5. **It is unpredictable.** The pearl finder was looking for pearls. The treasure finder was looking for nothing. One was intentional, the other accidental. What they had in common was they both recognized value when they saw it and both were willing to trade everything for it. It doesn't matter how you find the kingdom, but when you find it, grab it and don't let go.