

Treasure!

Part 2: "Why We Look For Our Treasure!"

"Where your treasure is... that's where your heart will be also!" Matthew 6.21

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which when a man found it, he hid it, and in his joy went and sold all he had to buy the field!" **Matthew 13.44**

Text notes... On our part, must see the present activity of kingdom reception! Not salvation! Free gift of God's grace! Can't amass enough to buy salvation! Went, cashed in, and bought into the *sub-surface!* DEPTH OF THE KINGDOM! Many current-day believers only in it for the real estate and the view... Never come to the personal cross!

"If you can't re-prioritize your relative values, cannot be My disciple!" **Luke 14.26**

"If you won't *lift* a cross and come after Me, you cannot be My disciple!" **Luke 14.27**

"If you won't *let go* of all you have, you cannot be My disciple!" **Luke 14.33 cp Mt 19.21-26 RYR**

Text notes... On His part, must see the motiv-action! Jesus knew God's heart was following treasure hidden in the "field!" **J3.16** As the Son of God He gave up His place in heaven to be born of a woman... **Gal 4.4** As the Son of Man He gave up His life on the earth... **Is 53.6,8 Rom 4.25 5.6-8** He "sold out" all He had to buy the field w/its *hidden* treasure! YOU! **Mt 13.44** And He modeled the way for all those "following..." by laying down His life for the sake of God's mission! **J4.34 5.30 6.38**

Asides... The value of anything is what someone is willing to pay for it... Jesus gave up *His place* in heaven, sold out *His life* on earth, for God's treasure! Knowing God's love for His treasure... what sort of life are you living? The kind where you spend some treasure on the things that you have affections for? The kind where faith is a safe drug? **Or the kind where you sell out to get what God treasures and His heart follows! The kind that lives a mission to save!**

"Don't you know that you are not your own but *bought with a price to glorify God* in this life?" **1Cor6.19,20** "And we were not redeemed from our vain lifestyles with corruptible things but *by the precious blood of Christ!*" **1Pet1.18,19** And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. **Gal 5.24** "And are predestined to be conformed into the image of God's dear Son." **R8.29** "And the life we now live, we live by the faith of the Son of God *who loved us and gave Himself for us!*" **Gal 2.20** "Therefore, be followers of God as dear children, and walk in love as Christ also loved us and gave Himself for us as an offering and sweet-smelling sacrifice to God..." **Ephesians 5.1,2**

Jesus was the One who sold out, heaven and earth, to buy the field with the treasure God's heart was following... And He asks, "will you lift your cross and follow My model, daily?"

Why is it so important to find your treasure, your motivation for action, your model to follow? Why would anyone in our permissive society give up their personal desires to live for others?

Why? First and foremost! Jesus' reason! Love for God, the Father! Him, as the treasure our hearts are set on! His will being done? Our "sustenance!" Wanting to deliver to Him what He wants most – the salvation of mankind! Men have risked life for the love of their commanders... **2Sam23.15 (David)** Gladly lay down life for the sake of our loved ones in this lifetime! **How much more for the God of our salvation and Commander of Eternity?**

Why? The model of Jesus! He did it first! Showed that it was possible to suspend *temporary* desires for *eternal* richness! He could have had it all! EVERYTHING! "Riches, fame, honor, letters, partners..." "He

was in all points tempted and tested, but without sin!" **Heb 4.15** **And he chose nothing but the will of God! He sought first, the kingdom of God and His righteousness... and got everything!**
Why? To not cause someone else to stumble! Magna Carta: "You are the salt of the earth, don't become worthless, the light of the world, don't dim or hide it..." **Mt 5.13ff** "No picking and choosing what you accept to do..." **17-20** Anger and unforgiveness! **21-26** Marital fidelity/sexual purity! **27-32** Verbal integrity and clarity! **33-37** The "Light-way" to deal with offenses! **38-42** And deal with offenders! **43-48**

"Offenses will come... But woe to the one by whom they come! Whoever offends one of these little ones which believe in Me, it would be better for him to have a millstone hung on his neck and be drowned in the sea..." Mt 18.6,7

Our salvation has never been about our personal comfort... Salvation has always been about God's shared mission... We have people in our worlds waiting to hear that God treasured them and God has you!

Why? (Bonus) To be His hands extended! The world is filled with people who are incontinent, inconsistent, anarchistic... Looking for the order, power and fruit of God's way in You! **Rom 6.22** Filling up with people who are angry and unforgiving, vengeful and violent... Needing the peace the world can't give and can't take away, operating in You! **J14.27 16.33** Filled w/people who are sexually enticed, compromised, abused and confused... Need to see God's order working! **Gen 1.27,28 2.24 1Cor6.8-11 18-20** People spewing the muck of broken hearts, fierce wounds, disillusionments... Need to hear the sounds (words) of restored hearts, renewed minds and established lives! **Mt 5.37 12.34 Jam 3.6-13 5.12 Col 4.6 Titus 2.8**

Why? Homes filled w/broken marriages! Hospitals filled w/people needing prayer! Offices filled w/people needing salvation! Streets filling w/people "poor!" And our self-ish sins separate us from fellowship w/God! They "beset us" from running the race! Our distractions keep us from seeing and hearing the voice of God! **Not a matter of perfection but connection!**
And what we connect to what we treasure!

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