

Matthew 13:44-58

Matthew 13:44 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,

- *The kingdom of Heaven refers to everything pertaining to Christ i.e. salvation, His word, righteousness, etc.*
- *In this case, the word of God is something of immeasurable value, something very precious, hidden in Christ Himself.*

...which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

- *Which a man kept or stored in his heart for future use.*
- *The treasure he found was of greater value than all he possessed.*
- *We must be willing to give up everything in order to gain Christ.*
- Matthew 16:26 "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"
- Psalm 119:10 with my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!
11 ¶ Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!
12 ¶ Blessed are You, O LORD! Teach me Your statutes!
13 ¶ With my lips I have declared All the judgments of Your mouth.
14 I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,

46 "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

- *Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding;
14 For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.
16 Length of days is in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor.
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, And all her paths are peace.
18 She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her.*

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind,

48 "which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.

49 "So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just,

50 "and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

51 Jesus said to them, "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

52 Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

- *Each of them had the responsibility of writing everything He taught them in their hearts.*
- *A householder is someone in charge of a household. His disciples were stewards of God's word both the new and old word.*

53 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these parables that He departed from there.

54 And when He had come to His own country (*Nazareth*), He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works?"

- *When Jesus taught, He taught with great wisdom.*
- *He performed mighty works as a sign of compassion to the people.*
- *Even those who despised Him testified of His marvellous works.*
- Psalm 40:5 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁵O LORD my God, you have performed many wonders for us.

Your plans for us are too numerous to list.

You have no equal.

If I tried to recite all your wonderful deeds,

I would never come to the end of them.

55 "Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas (*Thaddeus also known as Jude*)?"

56 "And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?"

- *He is just a Nazarene, A poor carpenter's son. We saw Him grow up from a poor family. Who does He think He is?*
- It was a hamlet of earthen houses perched on sixty acres of rocky hillside where less than five hundred people lived. It was a mixed race area with poor scattered Gentile families who kept smallholdings. It was a nothing place. It was not a centre of education, learning, trade, finance and local government. It was an insignificant community which ambitious teenagers deserted for the distant city. Here the Son of God lived for at least twenty-five years. He walked its hills, and played in its lanes; he carried water from its well for his mother. At the well he would have heard the news of sicknesses, and death, and marriages, and the birth of babies in the village. There were no city gates where the elders met. The carpenter's shop would have been a place for men to stand and talk while a plough was being repaired. As the first born son Jesus was given responsibility quickly and he worked with his father in the carpenter's shop in his hometown.

- Isaiah 49:7 Thus says the LORD, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the LORD who is faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You."

57 So they were offended at Him.

- Romans 9:33 As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. {ashamed: or confounded}
- Matthew 11:6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour except in his own country and in his own house."

- *Luke 4:24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.*
- *A prophet does not have honour among his own people. Why?*
- *Over familiarity.*
- *Jealousy.*
- *Acknowledgment of sin.*
- *God's way of taking people out of their comfort zone.*
- *For the perpetuation of the gospel.*

58 Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

- *Because of their unbelief they did not ask Him to heal or help them.*
- *He did not help them because they did not ask him.*

Conclusion

In order for God to do a mighty work in us we must:

- *Treasure God and His word. (44)*
- *We must seek Him through His word in order to find Him.*
- *We must meditate on His word and hide it in our hearts.*
- *We must be willing to surrender all we have for His namesake. (45)*
- *We must be willing to forsake this world and all it has for the eternal reward. (45)*
- *We must always walk in a manner worthy of our calling in preparation for His return. (47-50)*
- *We must study His word, write it on our hearts and be ready to share and teach it whenever an opportunity arises. (51-52)*
- *We must not minimise humble beginnings. (54-56)*
- *We must not speak evil or quickly take offence towards one another. (57)*
- *We must honour God and believe in Him. Believe that He is able and always willing according to His will and purpose, in His own timing. Amen.*