

The Pearl of Great Price

Week 7 - The Covenant, The King, and The Kingdom (6-2-21)

Matt. 13:45-46

I. Seeking Goodly Pearls

A. Pearls

1. They are complete at creation
 - a) no polishing, refining, or cutting necessary
2. They are rare, valuable, and beautiful
3. They are associated with
 - a) wealth/prosperity, purity, wisdom (pearls of wisdom), patience, peace access to heaven (pearly gates)

B. Seek = Zeteo - Look for or desire

1. Same word used in Matt. 6:33 - "Seek ye first the kingdom of God..."

C. Contentment

1. There is a **Holy** discontentment where we are continually seeking a deeper relationship with God.
 - a) 1 Chronicles 16:11 "Seek the Lord and His strength, seek His face continually."
 - b) We should always be pursuing God
 - (1) There is always more of God's presence that can be experienced.
 - c) In your seeking for the presence of God and His Kingdom, don't settle for anything less. example: religion, men's recognition, mysticism, knowledge without the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. There is an **un-holy** discontentment where we want more than just God.
 - a) All the "things" come after seeking the kingdom of God.
 - b) God must be enough!
 - (1) The people that make God their everything are the people that can endure the toughest battles.
 - (a) Phil. 4:11-13 "...I have learned... to be content..."
 - i) No amount of stuff, credentials, strength, etc will ever be enough
 - ii) Many people have a lot of stuff but are still not content.
 - (b) 1 Tim. 6:6 "But Godliness with contentment is great gain."
 - i) Succeeding Miserably - wrong ladder
 - (2) Matt. 6:24 "No man can serve two masters..."
 - (a) Exodus 20:3 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."
3. Discontentment with God comes from not seeking Him with your **whole heart**.
 - a) If we give God our whole heart there isn't room for anything else.
 - b) We will only find Him if we seek Him with ALL our heart.
 - (1) Deut. 4:29, Jer. 29:13

II. When He had found it

A. also from Deut. 4:29 and Jer. 29:13

1. **IF** we seek Him with **ALL** of our heart we **WILL** find Him.
2. God is not hiding from us, He is waiting for us
 - a) Matt. 7:7-11 "...seek, and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened..."
 - b) Hebrews 11:6 "... He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

III. Sold all that he had, and bought it

A. There aren't many things that I would sell everything for

1. Matt. 16:24-26 "...Gain the whole world, and lose his own soul..."
 - a) Is this a price that you are willing to pay? Count the cost - Luke 14:27-28
 - b) Have you decided that God is enough?
 - c) your soul is pretty important!
2. The cost is you whole heart, not necessarily everything you have.
 - a) your heart is where your treasure is - Matt. 6:19-21
 - (1) John 14:3 - We are God's treasure!

B. Phil. 3:7-11 "...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ..."

1. Trade an ounce of trash for a ton of treasure.
2. Trade Up! - From Good to Great
 - a) 2 Tim. 3:2 "...men shall be lovers of their own selves..."
 - (1) What do I spend my finances on?
 - (2) What do I spend my time on?
 - (3) What do I do to serve others?
 - (4) Do I pray for the needs and dreams of others or more for myself?
 - (5) What personal sacrifices do I make to serve the Lord?
 - (a) Am I willing to be inconvenienced to be obedient to His call?
 - i) To jeopardize my own comforts and pleasures?