

# GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## The Value Of The Kingdom

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**J**esus says in Matt. 13: 44-46, “The kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”  
“Again the kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

These two parables teach us that these men made once-in-a-lifetime discoveries, and each man gladly exchanged everything they owned in order to buy the treasure and pearl. Jesus says these two men know what is really worthwhile. They recognize value in these treasures when they saw them. These men saw the supreme value in the spiritual blessings of the kingdom, felt the joy in having them and were willing to sacrifice everything for them as they obtained it lawfully.

There is a **Joy** connected with the kingdom. This should be our reaction in finding Christ. Paul says “*But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his*

*sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them refuse, in order that I may gain Christ*” (Phil. 3:7-8). Since Paul never looked back a second time, neither should we. Paul says, “*I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 3:14). We should have joy pressing forward to that goal of Heaven in Christ Jesus.

If the kingdom of God is of great value, then we must be willing to **Sacrifice** all for it. Jesus says, “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you*” (Matt. 6:33). This means that we are to put God first in our lives. A Christian must be willing to forsake all for the kingdom. Jesus says, “*you cannot serve God and mammon*” (Matt. 6:24). Many people will confess that they ought to be seeking the kingdom, but worldly love gets the way. Discipleship demands sacrifice. Jesus says “*If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me*” (Matt. 16:24). People today are not willing to sacrifice all for Christ. When we come to Christ we must give Him everything. Jesus is that pearl of great value.

How much are you willing to sacrifice for Him?

If we are going to inherit the kingdom of God, we must also obtain it **Lawfully**. “*Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*” (Acts 4:12). Christ is our only way into Heaven. People today have the false concept that if they are a **good person** they will get into Heaven. Jesus says “*I am the way, the truth, the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*” (John 14:6). Without Christ you have no hope of eternal life in Heaven. Jesus is the only way. You must be willing to obey Him. This means obey the Gospel: **believe, repent, confess, be baptized, and remain faithful unto death.**

How valuable is the kingdom to you? Are you willing to sacrifice everything for it? Friend, Christ is the treasure and the pearl of great price. Jesus, having been perfected, became the author of our salvation to all who will obey Him. Will you obey Christ today?