SONG TITLES

"Way Maker" words and music by Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu © 2016 Integrity Music Europe

"Give Me Jesus" words and music by Fernando Ortega
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THE PARABLES—Section 2. Part 5

Matthew 13:44-45 Mark Kring, Senior Pastor February 23, 2020



- 13:44 Because there were no banks, many protected their valuables in secret spots, often in the ground.
- 2. 13:44 The point of the parable is not about ethics; it is about a willingness to sacrifice to possess a treasure.
- 3. 13:44 By considering the context of this verse, we understand the following:
 - It is obvious that the treasure was not hidden by the present owner
 of the field since the treasure was unknown to him (it was likely
 owned by a broker).
 - According to Rabbinic law, if a person came across lost valuables and the owner was unknown or deceased, the finder had the right to keep what was found.
 - If he had been operating dishonestly, he would simply have come back at night and taken the treasure. There would be no thought of buying the field.
- 4. 13:45 In the ancient world, pearls were the highest valued gems and were bought as investments.
- 5. 13:45 This parable gives a new perspective on Jesus' admonition not to "cast pearls before swine" (Matthew 7:6), emphasizing the priceless value of the gospel, though there will be those who disdain it.
- 6. Four specifics about the Kingdom, especially as it relates to salvation:
 - The Kingdom is personally apprehended—Both parables focus on a single individual sacrificing everything to personally obtain that which is immeasurably valuable. It is not obtained by genealogy, or by being a citizen of particular country (Romans 9:6-7).
 - The Kingdom is priceless—Both parables express that the value of salvation is worth the surrender of all that is possessed to receive it (Mark 8:36-37).
 - The Kingdom has varied entry points in life—There is not just one
 precondition for coming to Christ. You can come from wherever you
 are. The two parables are similar in outcome, but where they differ is
 how the treasure was found...one came by chance, the other was
 diligently looking.
 - Obtaining the Kingdom is a personal transaction—In both parables the priceless object was acquired at the expense of every possession the finder owned.

- 7. These two parables demonstrate an economic transaction to make a point; they represent the spiritual transaction of surrender. Regarding salvation, there is an exchange...the old life is exchanged for the new.
- 8. The one coming for salvation gives up all the worthless things they have, while freely receiving all the priceless things God has (Isaiah 55:1, 64:6).
- We must never underplay the cost of salvation. First and foremost, it cost Jesus everything to pay for our sin. Secondly and crucially, it does require surrender of self.
- 10. A true believer will be willing to pay whatever cost salvation involves because they understand the value of the treasure.
- 11. The joy in what each is gaining was far greater than the cost of surrender.
- 12. The only true joy is found in Jesus (John 15:11).
- 13. Because man was made by God for God, human satisfaction can be found only in God.
- 14. Both the land buyer and the merchant took decisive action while the opportunity was available.

GREEK WORDS

Emporos (em-por-as)—trader who travels :- to go out; merchant, wholesale dealer

QUOTES

"The gold and the silver and the rest of that most precious furniture which the Jews had and which the owners treasured underground was done to withstand the fortunes of war." ~Flavius Josephus (1st Century Historian)

"Salvation that is not desired above everything else is not truly desired." ~Dr. John MacArthur

"When a man will venture nothing for Christ's sake, we must draw the sorrowful conclusion that he has not got the grace of God." ~J.C. Ryle, 1856



NOTES