

A MESSAGE ON YOUR GOD-GIVEN WORTH
TREASURES IN A FIELD

By George Foster



Jesus once told a collection of four parables about the kingdom of God. In each of them he made a different comparison.

1. His first story compared God’s kingdom to the field of a farmer who sowed his seed and discovered that weeds had grown in the midst of the wheat. Sounds rather like the church—a mixture that will coexist until he returns.
2. His second illustration compared the kingdom to the growth of a tiny mustard seed, a tiny starting place for most of us, but with great potential for growth.
3. His third comparison referred to the expansion of yeast. We all know how the dough rises and becomes wonderful bread capable of feeding.
4. Finally he compared the kingdom of God to a field with a hidden treasure. This one is particularly relevant to our worth as individuals.

*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.
When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went
and sold all he had and bought that field” (Matthew 13:44).*

I have heard, on numerous occasions, that Jesus is the treasure in this story and we are the people who found and bought the field to have Him. But that interpretation doesn’t seem to fit, and certainly is out of character with the other comparisons that Jesus made in his stories. I think He was saying that *we are the treasure* and that Jesus found us and paid for the whole world in order to have us. That certainly puts a great value upon us and is consistent with what He came for—“to seek and to save that which was lost.”

I have British friends who use the word “treasure” in reference to people they deem to be a little odd. “Oh, she’s a treasure,” they say with a chuckle. These friends are warm loving people who have a constant stream of these “treasures” at their door for tea, coffee or Bible study. It is a home where people who are perhaps not valued by others feel valued by their gracious hosts. Maybe we all are a treasure in this sense of the word—a little odd—but Jesus has purchased us because He loves us.

He seeks us, protects us, values us, purchases us and embraces us with purposes in mind for each of us.