

A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13: 44:58

I. THE PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE, verse 44

- A. The story
- B. The significance

II. THE PARABLE OF THE PEARL, verse 45

- A. The story
- B. The significance

III. THE PARABLE OF THE NET, verse 46-50

- A. The story
- B. The significance

IV. THE PARABLE OF "THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE", verse 51,52

- A. The story
- B. The significance

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Living the Word Through the Week

1. Review the meaning of "parable" and the purpose of the parables—for the crowds? For the disciples and followers of Jesus? Choose a parable from last week and discuss its importance (see verses 24-33).
2. Why would someone bury a treasure in a field in Jesus' day? What is significant about the response of the man who finds the treasure? Do you "treasure" your relationship with Jesus? How so?
3. The man searching for the pearl could be likened to what in our spiritual journey? What about his sacrifice in purchasing the pearl relates to the cost of following Jesus? Compare Philippians 3:8
4. The parable of the fishing net is like what other parable Jesus presented? How did the fisherman sort out the bad fish from the good fish? Why will Jesus separate the righteous from the evil?
5. The "end of the age" is referenced in verse 49. When will this happen? Why is it important to think about the "end of the age"?
6. The parable in verses 51 and 52 follows a question Jesus asks His disciples. Discuss the question and their response.
7. Why are the disciples compared to the "owner of a house"? What does the owner do? How does this challenge the disciples concerning their responsibilities as Jesus' followers? Read Matthew 28:19,20. As disciples today, do we have responsibilities with the "treasures" God has given to us? If so what are they?