

The Hidden Treasure

1 Corinthians 2:9-14 you will discover that it is hidden, not because God has hidden it so we can't see it but because the natural mind cannot understand the truth of the Bible:

However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" — but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

In the time of the people mentioned in this story, the Bible days, there were no banks; there were no secure places where you could keep your money. The house was the worst place to keep your money because there were always invasions and these invaders would come into the house, ransack it, which means take everything they could get hold of. So, people buried their prized possessions of coins, jewels or precious stones in the ground in a secure box.

Sometimes those people passed away and someone else came into possession of the property, but did not know about the hidden treasure. In this story a man who might have rented the field accidentally found the treasure in the field and reburied it. Then he sold all that he had and bought the field. He then owned the treasure legally. What does this parable mean?

In Matthew 13:36 it says that Jesus went into a house with only his disciples. He shared this and several other parables. The explanation is simple:

The kingdom of heaven is a treasure.

It is hidden to some, indeed to many.

Some find it accidentally, or unintentionally, while doing something else.

Once found, a man should obtain it, regardless of cost.

In Matthew 13:10 the disciples asked why Jesus spoke in parables. ¹¹ He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹² Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand."

¹⁴ In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

“You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

¹⁵ For this people’s heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.”^[a]

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷ For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

Jesus spoke in parables so that those who really wanted to know the truth would pay attention and focus on the truth He was sharing. Many people today use the gospel and the truth about God for their own purposes and not to serve, honor and glorify God. So, Jesus concealed the truth through parables. Those who did not truly desire the truth about His reason for being on earth could not understand.

Scripture: Matthew 13:44

Questions?

1. If you want to unlock the secret of God’s Word what should you do?
2. Did God hide the gospel or just use the parables contained in the gospel for those who believe?
3. Would you sell everything for God’s treasure?

Next Steps:

Look at everything you own and can call your own. Will these be the only items of value you will own in your life or will you eventually give them up and acquire new things?