Discovering Treasure

Sunday Morning, February 23, 2014

Thesis: Is the Treasure of Christ Worth Purchasing?

Absolutely, Yes!

Introduction:

Previous Messages

- Devotion to God
- Worship Comes From Within
- Share the Fruit
- Trust in the Lord
- † True Love
- Know God's Desire
- Evidence of Sacrifice

The Shell Dump

In Florida there used to be a place you could go to that had large mounds of seashells placed there by fishing boats or other businesses that had accidentally scooped up shells as a byproduct of their particular business. It was an amazing thing to see so many shells in one place. It was a shell hunter's dream. You could dig through the piles and look for beautiful unbroken shells to take home and use for decorations or hobbies. We made many a craft with the shells we would find. Sometimes you had to dig deep to unbury the hidden treasure of a beautiful shell. It was worth it though. We would spend our personal time and gas to hunt down these beauties. It took effort and planning. We needed buckets or bags with us to carry away our finds. When we got home we would soak our shells and clean them up in preparation for being used.

God allows us to do the same thing in our relationship with Him. We have been given access to a wealth of untold treasures with God.

We sometimes think that God is this unreachable and unknowable super being. We think that He is spiritual and we are physical. We think that we could never understand Him or relate to Him.

I. Do You Have a "Prized" Treasure? (Luke 12: 34)

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Your Treasure, Your Heart

Ex: Velocity Cars, TV, Mecum Auction, etc

(II Corinthians 4:7)

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

Treasure in Earthen Vessels

(II Timothy 2: 20 - 21)

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

Jars of Honor

Clay Jars Versus Golden Vessel

Have You Discovered True Treasure? (Hebrews 11: 24 – 26)

24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

(Psalm 16:11)

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Life, Joy, Pleasures

At What Cost Will You Purchase Your Treasure? (Matthew 13:44)

"Again, 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.

Joy Before Him...Sells All

(Philippians 3: 7 – 11)

7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.

8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Gain/Loss for Christ

(Romans 8:18)

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Glorious Treasure

Conclusion:

Is the Treasure of Christ Worth Purchasing?
Absolutely, Yes!