

**Go For God World.**  
**Sermon No 13**  
**The Pearl of a great price**



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## **Bible Reading Matthew Ch13v45-46**

The Pearl of a great price.

Again the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man seeking goodly pearls.

Who when He had found one pearl of a great price  
Went and sold all that He had and bought it.

The seven parables brethren in Matthew Ch13 are designed to set forth the mysteries of heaven.

That is the secret of heaven and the rule over His Kingdom. In this Parable of the pearl of a great price in Matthew Ch13v45-46 who is the merchant and what is the pearl of a great price, that this particular man sold everything that he had to buy it, to purchase it.?

There is a powerful interpretation to this particular parable, Some people explain it like this.

That the pearl of a great price is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself and His Salvation, and that the merchant who sells all his possessions to buy it is the sinner seeking salvation.

Now that sounds good, It's not to bad of an interpretation. It could fool the weak. The thing is it is not correct, it's a matter a fact, that interpretation is contrary to the Word of God. It's contrary to the plan of God's salvation, His redemption. You see to suggest that the merchant is the sinner looking to sell everything for his salvation. That is not the teaching of scripture, because it is always the Lord Jesus Christ Himself who seeks men and women.

And the Lord God called unto Adam. *Adam where art thou.* As Luke 19v10 states. *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

He came to seek and to save that which was.

Or as John 6v44. *No man can come to Me except the Father which hath sent me to him.* Without Him we can do nothing. To say that the pearl of the great price is Jesus Christ Himself, and the salvation in Him is to suggest that salvation then can be bought, that salvation can be purchased. That's impossible.

We do not gain salvation by anything that we may own. No matter what we would be willing to sacrifice for Him, We cannot pay, we cannot offer, we cannot do anything for salvation, because salvation is a gift that cannot be purchased, It cannot be bought. Even if you are willing to give up everything. If you are as rich as Bill Gates and you want to give all of your mansions, all of your lands, all of your properties and everything else to buy it, No, It's beyond purchase, you cannot buy it.

Salvation from the Lord is free, It a free gift.

Ephesians 2v8 *For by grace are you saved through faith, not of yourselves, it is a gift of God.* Verse 9 says *Not of works lest any man should boast.* No matter how hard that you work for the Lord. Salvation is not of works, no matter what that you think that you can do for the Lord brethren. Titus 2v5. *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.* It would be senseless brethren for the merchant to sell all that he owned and to try and buy Jesus Christ and His Salvation.

It's not by Silver, it's not by Gold that you were redeemed, but the price was paid, it was the precious blood of Jesus Christ. It's perfectly true that Jesus Christ is way beyond value, much more than the pearl of a great price, but if anyone is putting their earthly blessings before Him, no matter what they are, to such an extent that they would rather spend time glorifying on their material blessings, then it would be better for them to get rid of them, to sell them, if they are coming before Him. But this is not the teaching of the parable.

Let me suggest to you in regards to blessings. We are to count our blessings whatever you have. I thank the Lord for my home, thank You for all that I have in my home, thank You for the food that's in my fridge, thank You for the bed that I have upstairs in my bedroom, thank You for my health and my strength and my soundness of mind and my joy, thank You Lord for being mindful of **YOU**. And knowing that I have got **YOU** Thank You Lord for my friends in the church and the people that I have, thank You Lord for the gift of prayer that I can pray for Robin and I can pray for Margaret and I can pray for my own wife Jean, pray for Pauleen, thank You Lord for all them and not missing the target or anything. It's glorifying Him, not in the material blessings, but acknowledging Him for all of your family, from your grandchildren, your sons, your daughters, everything, even if you don't see eye to eye, Pray for them and give God thanks for them. Recognise His goodness in YOUR form of YOUR blessing and don't just take them granted that they are there.

I worked hard all my life for what I have got, this phone that I have, the lovely carpet, the fridge, the food, I have been working from I was 14 years of age and these have built up all through the years, NO.

Give Him thanks for all of that. To many people take each day as just another day. You got to learn to rejoice in what God has done for you and see the things that are in your life. Now what is the interpretation of the parable? Number 1 The Merchant is not the sinner.

The Merchant is Jesus Christ Himself, the one who buys it all, the one who sold everything and purchased it all, That is Jesus Christ. The Pearl of the great price

What Is That? **It's His Church**, It's His Church.

He sold everything and gave up everything, He gave up heaven, He gave up His streets of Gold, He gave up the relationship with His Father, He gave up His life for you the Church, He sold it all for you the church.

YOU are the Pearl of the great Price. The price paid wasn't money, no amount of money could pay for it, it was His Own Life, It was His shed Blood. In Acts

Ch20v28 *Take heed unto yourselves and to all the flock over that which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers to feed the church of God which He has purchased with His own blood.* It's His, the price has been paid, He

owns it, it belongs to Him, Again in Ephesians Ch5v25 where it says. Husbands love your wives, even as Christ so loved the church, and gave Himself for it. And not forgetting B&S 1st Peter 2v18. *For as much as ye know, that you were not redeemed with corruptible things as Silver or Gold from your vain conversation received by traditions from your fathers.*

*As a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

Notice how beautiful the Pearl of great price represents the church which Christ loves and gave His life for it.

The Pearl brethren is a unique gem. It is sanctified.

What I mean by that is the Pearl is set apart from the diamond, people can talk about diamonds or the emerald or the topaz. Why did God pick the pearl?

You see there is no life in those, but in the case of the Pearl life is involved. The pearl is like the church, it's living. Remember how a pearl is formed?

The Church is formed of Born Again men and women.

True born again men and women. Our faith in Jesus Christ, our understanding of Him, our love for Him.

Our love for each other as the body of Christ, as His Church. I Am the Vine He says, and you are the

branches, he that abideth in Me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me you can do nothing. The Pearl came from life brethren.

He that has the Son has life and he that has not the Son does not have life. The Pearl represents the Church as I have said in the great cost of it's purchase Calvary the laying down of Jesus Christ, His sacrifice, shed blood, not taken blood, no one could take the blood off Him, it was freely given. Do you know how the Pearl is formed? This is where the life comes into it.

It's through the suffering of a little creature called the Oyster or Clam. A little particle of sand enters in between it's shells, and it causes irritation and it makes the Oyster or the Clam bleed and the life supporting fluid is drawn out causing the little creature literally to give up it's life to die for the formation of the Pearl.

That is the way in which the church was formed.  
Isaiah Ch 53. *He was wounded for our transgressions,  
He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of  
our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are  
healed.* Healed-Healed-Healed With His stripes He the  
Great Physician, the Great I Am. Without Him we can  
do nothing. Verse 10 goes on to say.

**Now Get This Brethren,** this always got me.

*Yet it pleased the Lord ( His Father) Yet it pleased the  
Lord to bruise Him, He has put on Him to grief, when ye  
shall make His so Soul an offering for sin, **WOW**  
He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days and the  
pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.*

**WOW That is a hard one to understand**

At Calvary B&S the Lord shed His blood to purchase the  
Pearl of a great price, His Church. And the grain of sand  
that caused His suffering was nothing less than our sin.  
All we like sheep have gone astray. The Pearl represents  
the church being polished. When a pearl is first discov-  
ered it very dull, it looks of very little value.

But when it is polished a transformation takes place and  
it is only after it is polishes that it reaches it's full value.  
Here is the explanation of the suffering, the trials and  
testing's that God's people are called to endure.

They are all part of the Lord's loving and His purpose.  
A polishing process, It can be very uncomfortable being  
squeezed in the hands of the Potter. But it's all worth it,  
being polished by Him means that we are in His hands.  
The Pearl represents the Churches message, a message  
that it carries to the world.

A Pearl is used for jewellery at the end of a chain, in the centre of a brooch, a pendant or set in the middle of a ring. But in the olden days it was an emblem used for healing. It was used for comfort and joy, it was looked upon in the olden days as a kind of charm.

But we don't believe in lucky charms, but we do believe that the pearl of a great price has a healing ministry.

Praying for the sick and when life turns pear shaped.

Have you stopped to think what our world would be like without the Pearl of a great price? Church?

What would the world be like without the Church,

It's ministry, It's message? It is through the Church we

have Orphanages. Homes for the poor, Homes for the

aged, Homes for the afflicted, there are homes for

Alzheimer's, Homes for the sick, Homes for the homeless,

We have hospitals and nurses because of the Church and

the head is God's people The Pearl represents the church

in it's value to it's owner. A Pearl is worn for attraction

and to enhance beauty to whoever wears it.

To own a pearl you have to be either rich or well off.

It speaks of wealth and there is nothing more important

to the Merchant who is Jesus Christ than to own The

Pearl of a great price the Church. B&S today He does

own it, the price has already been paid, He has sacrificed

everything for it's purchase and He owns it. And someday

He will come back to take it away to Himself.

And the world that remains will experience a great loss.

When the Pearl of a great price goes the Holy Spirit goes

with it, and the church is gone. After Revelation Ch 4

Brethren the world is a mess after Revelation C4.

Keep all that in your mind. AMEN

# *Tell The Lord You're Ready*

*Another year has passed us by Twelve months have slipped away  
Which brings us one step closer To the promised judgement day  
For some, the past year wasted Through gambling, drugs and sin  
They've forgot the Bible's warning That the end will soon begin  
Have we conveniently just pushed aside The price the good Lord paid  
Did the beauty of the scriptures Just vanish from our head  
Well now a new year's started It's 2000 years plus one  
Start thinking once again of God Who gave His only Son  
Ask Him for forgiveness He's promised He'll comply  
Talk to Him through daily prayer You'll soon see eye to eye  
He'll fill your heart with happiness He'll forge your life anew  
Believe in Him and all He says For every word is true  
Be happy in the knowledge That your sins are washed away  
And tell the Lord you're ready When He comes on Judgement Day*

*By Jim Smyth*

*From Go For God World Poetry Book*