Assignment: READ Chapter 6 (A Comprehensive Study of NINE Parables of Jesus Christ), **The Parable of the Hidden Treasure**: Pages 67-78 of your textbook.

CHAPTER SIX

The Hidden Treasure (Mt 13:44)

INTRODUCTION

Last semester, in the book "A Comprehensive Study of Nine of the Parables of Jesus", we have seen several things:

a) Different ways in which the message of the kingdom would be received, i.e., ("The Sower")
b) The efforts of Satan to corrupt the character of the kingdom, but its future consummation in purity and splendor being assured ("The Wheat and Tares")
c) The growth and development of the kingdom ("The Mustard Seed" & "The Leaven")

Each of these parables appears in Matthew 13, and as we continue to examine that chapter, we will find more.

In this assigned chapter, we will review two parables in Mt 13:44-46 in depth. They are:

1. "The Parable of The Hidden Treasure"
2. "The Parable of The Pearl of Great Price"

Like the couplet of "The Mustard Seed" and "The Leaven", in which a similar theme was found, there seems to be a theme common to these two parables. The earlier couplet's theme was the growth and development of the kingdom. This couplet's theme appears to be the kingdom's preciousness and value. In this chapter, we will first focus on "The Parable of the Hidden Treasure" and then move on to the parable of the pearl of great price.

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure, found in the Bible in Matthew 13:44, tells the story of a man who discovers a hidden treasure in a field, and upon realizing its immense value, sells everything he owns to buy the field and gain access to the treasure; Jesus uses this to illustrate the concept that the Kingdom of Heaven is so valuable that one should be willing to give up everything else to be a part of it, signifying that following God is the greatest treasure one can possess, even above worldly possessions.

I recall growing up hearing about the parable of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value in the Bible. Everything I heard focused on people giving up everything to

follow Jesus. I never really thought twice about these parables until one day God spoke to me and revealed a truth about them that I'd never seen or heard before.

When God first revealed this to me, it blew my mind in a good way. I never realized God saw me and others as being so valuable to Him. As I began to seek Him more, I wondered if these parables had other hidden truths. He began to reveal answers I hadn't seen before. As you read on, I'll go into more detail about these two parables, along with other related scriptures that go hand in hand with what Jesus meant when He said this.

Key Words

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure in the Bible, found in Matthew 13:44-46, has several key words and themes, including:

- **Treasure**: The treasure represents God's children, who are His greatest treasure.
- **Value**: The parable communicates the great value of lost sinners.
- **Cost**: The cost of discipleship can be great, but the value of what is gained is worth it.
- **Kingdom**: The parable is set in the kingdom of heaven, which Jesus reveals as his way of life, love, compassion, and more.
- **Discipleship**: The parable encourages people to become believers without worrying about the cost.
- **Eternal life**: The pearl of great price represents eternal life, an incorruptible inheritance, and the love of God through Christ.

The Treasure Hid in the Field Explained

I recall reading some scriptures one day and coming to the parable of the hidden treasure in the field. This time, as I read it, God was trying to tell me something I hadn't seen before. I remember saying to Him, "Yah, I see it; we are supposed to give up everything to follow you." Then I started reading other scriptures elsewhere in the Bible.

God then told me to go back. So, I went back, but with an attitude, like I already knew what the parable meant. However, since He is God, aka the potter, and I'm Zella, aka the clay, I listened and went back.

As I read it again, I basically said to God, "Yah, I see it." I thought I already understood the parable's full meaning. I thought it only meant that Jesus was the treasure/pearl, and we were supposed to give everything to purchase the treasure/pearl and follow Him. Mostly because that is what I heard most preachers and teachers say. I truly thought this was the full meaning, but I still knew God told me to go back for some reason. (I'll go into this meaning in more detail later)

So, I finally asked Him, "What is it? What are you trying to show me?" Like how the disciples asked Jesus what the parables meant in their day.

Suddenly, a rocket of information hit me as God lovingly said, **"You're the treasure in the field."** I was instantly in awe of the nugget of truth God just revealed. It shifted my whole way of thinking about the parable and others to come!

It also taught me a valuable lesson that although we may think we know something in the Bible, we should ask God for understanding. He wrote it, and He knows the meaning. Remember to trust Him when He teaches us.

Let's examine this parable more closely.

Jesus said in Matthew 13:44 (KJV): ***Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.***

In this parable, the man represents Jesus, the treasure represents the children of the kingdom, and the field represents the earth.

How Do We Know That's the Meaning?

A couple of verses earlier, the disciples ask Jesus about the meaning of the tares/weeds parable. Here we gain some insight into what the field means straight from Jesus's interpretation.

- **Matthew 13:36-38** (KJV) Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house: and His disciples came unto Him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. 37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the **Son of man**; 38 The **field is the world**; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the **tares are the children of the wicked *one*;**

THE FIELD AND TREASURE MEANING

Based on Jesus's explanation to the disciples here, we can begin to see and interpret the other parables that Jesus spoke of in the same chapter. For example, Jesus said that the **field represents the world or earth**. With that in mind, we can conclude that in Matthew 13:44 the field must also mean the world.

- **Matthew 13:44** (NKJV) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in the world, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
- **Matthew 13:44** (NKJV) 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 the world.

So, what about the treasure in the field or treasure in the world? How do we know exactly that this represents the children of the kingdom? To understand this and the

context of treasure in this parable, let's first think about treasure from a normal viewpoint.

1. **Treasure is something that represents value.**
2. **Treasure is not necessarily money.**
3. **Treasure to one person may be junk to another.**
4. **If treasure is lost, it's not beneficial, although it is still considered valuable.**
5. **If treasure is found, its value can be seen and is beneficial in some form.**
6. **Treasure is usually protected in some way.**
7. **Treasure is sometimes hidden to be kept safe or hidden from others.**

The Greek word for treasure is ***thesaurus*** (G2344). Thayer's definition is basically the place in which good and precious things are collected and laid up. With this definition in mind, let's look up some scriptures about treasure from God's perspective.

- **Matthew 6:21 (KJV) For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also.**
- **Matthew 12:35 (KJV) A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.**
- **Zechariah 2:8 (KJV) For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.**
- **Hebrews 12:2 (KJV) Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.**
- **John 3:16-17 (NKJV) For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.**
- **Luke 15:4-6 (NKJV) What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? 5 And when he has found *it,* he lays *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together *his* friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!**

Scripture says our treasure is where our heart is also. (Matthew 6:31) This verse also applies to God and His heart/treasure. As we saw in these scriptures, we are the focal

point of God's heart. This shows that God's heart is for us and that He loves us. Knowing this, we can see that, from His perspective, we are His treasure.

God even calls us the apple of His eye. Because we are the apple of His eye, He has given us good things, including eternal life and all the promises of the kingdom of God through Jesus Christ. All of this came from God's good heart for us. He loves us and wants to help us tremendously.

We were lost sheep that needed to be found. That's why the loving Shepherd, aka God, came looking for us. He cares for us so much that it was even considered a joy for Him to endure the cross for our sake.

These are just a few scriptures that show we are God's treasure because His heart is for us, and where your heart is, your treasure will be also.

VIEWING THE PARABLE

Let's look at this parable again and think about the treasure portion. Remember, God considers ***us*** (HUMANKIND) His treasure.

Jesus said in Matthew 13:44 (KJV): Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; which, when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

1. **Treasure is something that represents value. We are valuable to God.**
2. **Treasure is not necessarily money. Although we aren't money, God says: Where your treasure is, there your heart will be. God's heart is obviously towards us. So, we are His treasure.**
3. **Treasure to one person may be junk to another. People in the world and Satan might consider you as junk, but God considers you as treasure.**
4. **If the treasure is lost, it's not beneficial, although it is still considered valuable. Although we were lost, God still considered us valuable. That's why He sent Jesus!**
5. **If treasure is found, its value can be seen. It's beneficial in some form. Once we are found, we become children of the kingdom. We can be beneficial according to God's purpose for our lives and the lives of others around us. Let your light shine; don't cover it up!**
6. **Treasure is usually protected in some form. God is our protection and safety.**
7. **Treasure is sometimes hidden to be kept safe or hidden from others. I believe this has two meanings. See below.**
    - **God covered our sin under the old covenant by a sin offering so that we wouldn't be judged. However, God now removes our sin through the offering of Jesus Christ so that**

we won't be judged. He hid/removed the sin so we would be safe in His eyes. He keeps us safe from the enemy's attacks/sin.

- **Jesus sowed us, His treasure in the earth, so we can be a blessing and benefit to the world and others around us. Even if the world doesn't see or acknowledge what we have to offer. Which is Jesus and the kingdom.**

Some people may think you're worthless or of little value. Some may call you names or even try to defame your worth. However, part of the good news is that no matter what others think, or what you think, God still knows you're worth it. God knows your true potential. You're still a treasure to Him. So be encouraged.

THE MAN WHO SOLD ALL TO BUY THE FIELD

Let's face it, if God didn't think you were worth it, He never would have paid the ultimate price. The price paid to buy something reflects its value.

If you weren't considered important, then God never would have gone to such lengths to buy you back. He never would have gone the extra mile to reveal your true potential. Look at these scriptures, which help reveal the part of the parable about Jesus buying the field to recover the hidden treasure.

- **1st Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV) For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.**
- **1st Corinthians 7:23 (NKJV) You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.**
- **John 15:12-14 (KJV) This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.**

In the parable, it says the man bought the field. What's interesting is that the field's previous owner didn't realize it held treasure. If the previous owner had known, he never would have sold it.

This is basically the devil who didn't realize God's plan to restore the children of God to their full potential in Christ Jesus.

God bought us back from the bondage of sin and from Satan. He did this through the offering of Jesus Christ, and Satan had no clue what hit him. Let's look at some scriptures below.

- **Hebrews 2:14-15 (NKJV) Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

- **2 Timothy 2:24-26 (NKJV) And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 26 and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.**
- **Colossians 2:13-15 (NKJV) And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. He has taken it out of the way by nailing it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.**
- **John 8:34-36 (NKJV) Jesus answered them, most assuredly, I say to you, whoever sins is a slave of sin. 35 And an enslaved person does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.**

No one can pay a higher price than laying down their own life. No one can love more than laying down their life for a friend. That's exactly what Jesus did for us. We were the joy that was set before Him. That's why He paid the highest price to get us back. Also, in the process of doing this, He set us free from the bondage of sin and Satan.

The following verses show how badly Jesus was beaten on his way to and at the cross. This is all part of the payment He endured for us.

- **Isaiah 52:13-14 (NKJV) Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. 14 Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;**
- **Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

  This reveals ***two things*** that also pertain to the parable of the hidden treasure.

1. **Jesus paid the highest price by wanting to lay down his life to buy us back. This included him being disfigured so badly that no one else ever came close to that type of disfigurement.**
2. **You only pay the price for something, if you consider it worth the price tag. You buy it because it's worth it to you. If it's not worth**

the price tag, don't buy it. Jesus knew the price to get His children back, and He believed it was well worth it. In God's eyes, you're so valuable that you're considered priceless to Him.

Jesus paid the ultimate price by laying down His life for us. He did this because Satan/Sin tried to steal our true identity from us. Jesus became unrecognizable to us on the cross so we could be recognized again by our Heavenly Father as children of the kingdom.

Our identity from day one was supposed to be the same as it was with Adam and Eve before they ever sinned. God wanted to restore us to our original value and life with Him by taking sin out of the equation. The very sin that tried to imprison us. The only way to do that was by paying the price.

On top of this, the parable says the man sold all to buy the field. Some may ask what God/Jesus sold. I believe God came down from Heaven and became a man to purchase us back. God didn't have to leave heaven, but He did because He wanted to buy us back.

Jesus also made a sacrifice for us. Part of God becoming a man was a form of selling all. Jesus not having a place to lay His head was also a form of selling all. Jesus giving/laying down His life was also a form of selling/payment.

Scripture even states He became poor so we can become rich through Jesus. This also reflects how He sold everything for us. Here are a couple of scriptures.

- **2nd Corinthians 8:9** (NKJV) "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."
- **Matthew 8:20 (NKJV)** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head."
- **Luke 9:58 (NKJV)** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head."

You see, God/Jesus had to sell or give something up to make a purchase. He came from above to dwell with us here on earth as a man. While Jesus was here on earth, He had no place to lay His head. He was constantly being sought after to be killed. The religious leaders of His day, the Pharisees, rejected Him.

Although some believed and followed Him, others eventually rejected Him and thought He was crazy. Jesus spoke the truth regardless of how it made Him look to the public. He chose to love, even though He knew some would betray Him. This helps paint the picture of the parable: He was selling or giving when He didn't have to. All because He wanted to purchase us back. (See John 6:60-66)

This lines up with the parable of the person selling all to buy the field/treasure. Jesus sold it all to purchase us. He made many sacrifices for us on the way to the Cross. We are bought with the price of His blood at the Cross, where He said, "It is finished."

THE HIDDEN TREASURE PARABLE DECIPHERED

Now we have laid some groundwork with the scriptures above. Let's look at this parable side by side with the parable of the tares, where Jesus explains the field.

- **Matthew 13:36-38 (NKJV) Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." 37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. "**
- **Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "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."**

So, knowing what Jesus identifies the field as the world/earth, the man as Jesus, and the treasure as lost children of God. Would it be wrong to see the same parable this way now?

- **Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like lost children of God in the world, which Jesus found and hid; and for joy over it Jesus goes and lays down His life and buys the world."**

Praise God! When God revealed this truth to me, it changed my whole perspective on this parable! Thank you, Jesus, for your great love towards us!

THE PEARL OF GREAT VALUE EXPLAINED

Now that we know what the hidden treasure in the field means, let's look at the pearl of great price. These two parables are very similar.

- **Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, 46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."**

In this parable, the merchant seeks and searches for specific, beautiful pearls. However, when he found one pearl of great price, he sold everything and bought it.

What's interesting is that the merchant was seeking only one type of pearl. He wasn't looking for just something ordinary; he wanted something extraordinary.

He didn't just settle for something of common value; he went after the best pearl he could find.

However, this pearl was in the wrong hands at first. At least from the merchant's perspective. The merchant thought, "I must have this pearl." That's why he went to such lengths, selling all he had to buy it.

The merchant here represents Jesus. The pearl of great price is like treasure and represents the children of the kingdom. (See 1 Corinthians 6:20, 1st Corinthians 7:23, John 15:12-14, Matthew 6:21, Matthew 12:35, Zechariah 2:8, Hebrews 12:2, John 3:16-17, Luke 15:4-6)

That said, would it be incorrect to read that same parable as this?

- **Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, 46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."**
- **Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is Jesus seeking the lost children of the kingdom, 46 who, when he had found one lost child of the kingdom, went and sold all that he had and bought it."**
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1. Pearls are typically a high-value item. We are of significant value to God—even just one person.
2. Pearls are an item that typically is shown or worn as an accessory. God wants to shine His light through our lives to others. Christ in us is the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27)
3. Notice the merchant was in search of a specific type of pearl. Typically, rarer pearls cost more. God is searching for people who will believe in Him and trust Him.
4. Notice the merchant didn't buy the more common pearls. Although God desires everyone to be saved, some people won't believe and accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

ANOTHER MEANING FOR THESE TWO PARABLES

The other meaning of this parable is the more commonly heard one. This means giving up everything to follow Jesus. Let's look at the two parables again and explain them.

- **Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "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."**
- **Matthew 13:44 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like God/Jesus hidden in the world, which we found and hid; and for joy over it we go and sell all that we have and follows/accepts Jesus."**
- **Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, 46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it. "**

- **Matthew 13:45-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like us seeking God, 46 who, when he had found Jesus, went and sold all that he had and followed God/Jesus."**

The interpretation is that the treasure is God/Jesus and His promises. The man is us, and we sell all we have to buy the field with the treasure/pearl, meaning we follow Jesus.

This is a secondary meaning. Let me explain why and give you some scriptures.

To begin with, we can't purchase the kingdom of God. We can't buy Jesus or our way into heaven. It sounds silly when we put it so bluntly. Jesus is a gift to all who believe and accept Him.

However, we don't think this is what most people mean when they read that parable with this kind of interpretation. They aren't saying we are buying the kingdom; they are more likely referring to Jesus as our treasure, and we now follow Him. We can understand that because of Matthew 16:24-25.

Matthew 16:24-25 (NKJV) Then Jesus said to His disciples,

"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

This makes sense. If someone chooses to believe in God/Jesus, they should count the cost and follow Him.

is what some people may not realize, though. We can't come to God on our own. We can't bear fruit on our own. We can't do any of these actions on our own. We need God's help, even from the very first step. Look at these scriptures.

We can do nothing apart from Jesus. We can't even bear fruit apart from Jesus.

- **John 15:4-5 (NKJV) "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine; you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."**
- **We can't come to Jesus unless the Father draws us to Him.**
- **John 6:44 (NKJV) "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him at the last day."**
- **John 6:65 (NKJV) And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."**

We believe this parable explanation is considered secondary for this very reason. However, it's still 100% true, and we should follow Jesus. Even though this is considered secondary, it's still very important and shouldn't be thrown out the window.

We bring it up that way because that's what the scriptures state. So, regarding this secondary meaning, we find Jesus and follow Him by our own strength. The reality is we couldn't even do that on our own. We still needed God's help. Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace to help us!

This secondary meaning of the parable points us back to the primary meaning we discussed earlier. Jesus buying us back.

Now that we have both explanations of the parables, let's compare.

COMPARING THE PARABLE FIRST AND SECOND MEANING

1. **Primary meaning of the parable – God/Jesus found us and bought us back by laying down His life.**
2. **Secondary meaning of the parable – We found God/Jesus and decided to believe/accept Him as our Lord/savior and follow Him.**

This secondary explanation is about us finding Jesus and following Him. Point us back to the primary explanation of the parable. That is, Jesus found us and bought us back. This is because Scripture says we can't find Jesus unless God draws us. (John 15:4-5, John 6:44,65)

Since that's the reality, once God finds us and draws us to Jesus, He can help us follow Jesus in our daily walk. God then helps us bear fruit and follow Jesus in all our ways. The secondary reason is considered secondary because it's impossible to understand it without the primary meaning. (I know lol it's a tongue twister)

We must remember we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. Scripture says it's the goodness of God that leads people to repentance.

- **Ephesians 2:8-10 (NKJV) For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.**
- **Romans 2:4 (NKJV) Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**
- **Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**
- Romans 12:3 (NKJV) For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

So, God is there from the very first moment we believe. He helped write that faith upon our hearts! You couldn't master that faith on your own, and neither could I. It came because God drew us to Him and gave us His Word (Jesus). This all points back to why the first meaning of this parable is the primary meaning. Without it, the secondary meaning wouldn't even be possible.

Once we realize how much God loves us and cares for us, then we can follow Him with His guidance and help. That's why I believe the primary explanation of these two parables holds more weight. The first explanation shows God's goodness and mercy towards us while revealing our true value in His eyes.

Because of God's goodness and grace, Jesus sold all He had to buy us back by dying and rising from the grave. He became poor so we can become rich through Him. Therefore, God now draws us to Jesus through this goodness.

- 2nd Corinthians 8:9 (NKJV) For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.
- Romans 2:4 (KJV) Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Now we can see how much He paid for us. Now we can see the author and finisher of our faith: Jesus, our example in life. It's His very goodness that leads us to repentance. This is why we can come to Him and follow Him. So the primary meaning is the cause of the parable's secondary meaning.

Both explanations I mentioned are valid. We are God's/Jesus's treasure, and God/Jesus is our treasure as well. However, regarding selling all we have, we must follow Jesus. We must remember we are saved by grace through faith, not by our work.