**“God’s Treasured Possession”**

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

Romans 8:28-39

Matthew 13:44-52

Pentecost 9

Jesus said to His disciples: “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old”.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Bridge**

Hot on the heels of our Savior’s instruction to us about how “clear” Holy Scripture is **Explained** by **Him the One Who is always the Explainer and Explanation**, Jesus asked disciples: “Have **you** understood all these things?” And they “said to Him, ‘Yes’”. The “**Treasured Possession” is the Explanation Himself**, then **all connected to Him**, which is **what** all the parables that Matthew (and Scripture) records **conclude by making sure we “scribes” understand**. The **summation** (the “**Explanation**”) of all that’s, both, the “**Treasure new and old**” (the New and Old Testaments of God’s revealed Word) is **the divine Jesus** / **the Father’s Beloved One, to Whom understanding and connection to Him (being in Him) makes us also with Him “Treasured Possessions” of the Heavenly Father**.

As we “**understand**” Jesus **The Anointed One** (**The Christ / “God’s Treasured Possession**”), we understand, then, the Gospel of Him and those **with Him** **Treasured and His**, reborn to be of **one flesh together**, **prized, valued, so purchased more than enough property to gain any one, and cherished as precious and taking possession of, worth selling everything else for**. **As Jesus reveals the divine love of His Father for HIM AS HIS SON, so He also reveals the Father’s love for those IN HIM CONNECTED, as ALSO (with Him) the Father’s “Treasured Possessions” worth all** …

**Text**

… and, so, we have three more formally presented parables. And **all of Scripture, remember** is a parable, “hidden” and yet revealed by a “clear” Word so understandable **in Christ Jesus**. **HE** is the kingdom that is **of heaven** … and always has been that (Him incarnate to save and purchase a fallen field of a world (**what was always led to** **in the history the Old Testament … yet announced becoming accomplished in the New**).

A “Treasure **hidden in a field**”. That “field”, remember, is the world, and the Son of God **became born into it after being the Seed carried before implanted into a young girl, Mary (hidden in it, even … it** being Abraham’s loins, but before Him someone since Adam and Eve till Christmas where we most celebrate that birthing, Him then just like any other baby, but headed (Him) to a cross with cosmic implications of purchase of creation by bloodshed. The “hidden” yet clearly- and understandably-revealed Gospel in all of the Old Testament is the Father’s “**covering up” of Him in the protection of the Son’s Seed for four thousand years through a small Nation (and one in that Nation)**, **selling “all He has” in the preciousness of His Son (giving Him over to death) to** **“purchase” (“redeem”) the “field” of the world of creation** with the **price sufficient in divine bloodshed**. “God loved the world, giving (selling) His only Son so that the world (the ‘field’) through Him might be saved”.

“**Again**” (Jesus begins), the kingdom of heaven (the kingdom of God’s “Torah” of good intent like His own relationship within the deity of God, Father and Son, with Good Spirit) is like **Himself as a “merchant in search of fine pearls”** (in other words, children faithful and obedient willingly / sons and daughters worthy of that relating with Him as Father), “on finding **one Pearl of Great Value” (His own perfectly obedient and precious One living that way on earth as got prescribed for Sonship**) **“sold all that He had” to “buy Him” and all who’d get connected to Him by gracious offer** … the **purchase price, again, was divine- and willfully-obedient blood as worthy value, acceptable for all**.

And, **again**, “the kingdom of heaven is **like a Net” (Jesus, again, that, even Net) thrown into the sea**” (or the “field” of the world really no matter and because of the deadly nature of the depths of the seas) “gathering fish” (or blest people along with all of desiring creation’s wanting to be renewed / saved), and this “fish of every kind. When full (the Net appropriately attachment to Jesus / “fish” **redeemed** “**by Him**) “men” (angels) will “draw to shore” we’re told, the Net-full and “sit down to **sort-out** things evil yet from the righteous”.

**Application**

“**Scribes” recognizing that Scriptural consistency** will **know** Deuteronomy’s announcement as **part of that same parable**. “It was not that you” (called a “people holy to the Lord your God”) “were more in number than any other people that the Lord s**et His love on you and chose you**”, but because of **Who you carried within you (that Promised “Treasure” within your ranks, the coming Christ**). You were “fewest of all peoples” and yet **bore His Love in the divine Son, so loved by the Love gifted you, committed your way to be God’s Way** **…** you are chosen “be**cause the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers**”.

**WE HAVE THAT (the same “CHOSENNESS”)** **baptismally and believing the promise of that**. “God **SO** loved the world by **loving US**”, saving sacrificially to buy **you or me (you and me)** / that purchase is **of us** (each, even, **individually**, but all corporately) … and **we know it** (that being **made “clear**” / the **revealed** **GOSPEL**). **We were** baptized into Christ’s death, then also Christ’s resurrection as Romans 6, for instance, says, so united therefore to Christ, so that, as He is the Father’s Treasure, we are as fully as He joined to Him … and we **know that and believe that** as “clear Gospel”.

It is the Father who Treasured all so much to sell His divine Son for our purchase (all’s purchase). Then “What shall we say to these things?” Romans 8 reminds **us** who know our participation in Romans 6. “Who shall separate **us** **from the love of Christ” for all the reasons of our preciousness to Him?** Even in tribulation, “Shall” these things (“distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger sword”) separate **us** from the “love of Christ?” “**NO**”, in all these things **WE**” (precious / Treasured / possessed by God as **His through Christ Jesus**) “are more than conquerors through Him who loved us” unto His own sacrifice of blood for us to death. And **we can say (since He does)** that **we’re** “sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to **separate us from the** **Love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord**.” Let’s pray:

“Lord Jesus Christ, **our** confidence and support and defense (and “Treasure” **for us** in every need, including for our salvation), continue to preserve Your Church in safety (of which **I am of it** **by baptism into You and Your sacrifice and by faith in that for me**). Govern us Your Church by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace, Jesus. This we’re asking of You, Lord, for You **are God’s Love which we are never separated from**, and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit as one God, now and forever. Thanks You. Amen.”