

FBC POWELL, 5-11-08 PM NOTES
"THE PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM—PART 3"
MATTHEW 13:44-46
(#53 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Matthew")

Hebrews 10:25 (HCSB) "Not staying away from our meetings, as some habitually do, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day drawing near."

The Three Elements of Saving Faith

1. Knowledge

"I cannot have God in my heart if He is not in my head. Before I can believe *in*, I must believe *that*."
—R. C. Sproule

"Nothing can enter the sanctuary of the heart unless it first passes through the vestibule of the mind."
—John Gerstner

2. Assent

James 2:19 (NKJV) "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!"

3. Commitment

Colossians 1:13 (AMP) "[The Father] has delivered *and* drawn us to Himself out of the control *and* the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love."

Romans 3:11 (NKJV) "There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God."

I. The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (v. 44)

II. The Parable of The Pearl of Great Price (vv. 45-46)

III. Principles from the Parables

A. Salvation Involves a Response From Man

B. The Way to the Way of Salvation May be Different

John 14:6 (NKJV) “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Acts 4:12 (NKJV) “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Isaiah 65:1a (NKJV) “I was sought by *those who* did not ask *for Me*; I was found by *those who* did not seek Me...”

C. Salvation Is Free, But It Costs Everything

Romans 6:23 (NKJV) “For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

John 19:30b (NKJV) “It is finished!”

Ephesians 2:9 (NKJV) “Not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress,
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly,
Wash my Savior, or I die!*

—Augustus Toplady

“[These parables] mean that saving faith retains no privileges and makes no demands. It safeguards no cherished sins, treasures no earthly possessions more than Christ, clings to no secret self-indulgences. Instead, faith begets a heart that longs to surrender unconditionally to whatever the Lord demands.”

—John MacArthur

Philippians 3:7-9 (NKJV) “But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 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 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.”

*“Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also.”*

—Martin Luther