LYRICAL DEVOTIONAL · DAY 159

Jesus-The Treasure Hunter

Written by Bill Perkins

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,
which a man found and hid; and
in his joy he goes and sells all he has
and buys that field." (Mt 13:44)

Jesus uses hidden treasure
to show how the Kingdom can be present
yet unseen.

God's work is seldom small-
It may slip quietly into the familiar,
Unnoticed.
The Pharisees expected signs.
But Jesus told them
the Kingdom was already
"in your midst." (Lk 17:21)

Their inability to recognize Him
sets the stage for this parable.

The treasure is the Kingdom.
And the Kingdom
is Jesus Himself-
the King among them,
unrecognized.

But the parable carries
a second movement:
Jesus is not only the treasure;
He is the One
who finds the treasure.

The man who sells all he has
"in his joy"
points beyond himself
to the joy that drove Christ
to the cross:

"For the joy set before Him
He endured the cross." (Heb 12:2)

In this reading,
the treasure is God's people.
Joy met joy
when Jesus acquired
what He came to redeem.

His joy in saving
met our joy in being saved.
The price He paid
was His life.
The treasure He gained
is those He ransomed.

The field, Jesus says,
is the world. (Mt 13:38)
The purchase of the field
reveals the scope of His claim:
the whole world
is the arena of His redemption.

He bought the field
to obtain the treasure within it.
The Kingdom arrives
through the King's self-giving,
and His joy is bound
to the people He redeems.

The parable reveals
two hidden realities:
the hiddenness of the Kingdom
in Jesus' earthly ministry,
and the hiddenness of God's people
as His treasured possession.

What seems ordinary
is charged with divine value.
What lies buried
is the object of Christ's joy.

You may not know this about Jesus:
He was a treasure hunter first— and we were the treasure.

To discover the Kingdom
is to discover Jesus.
And to understand the cross
is to understand
that He discovered us first.