

Passages to Ponder

(Matthew 13:45-46)

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Jesus in this passage shares His heart with His disciples concerning His desire to seek and to save lost sinners. He tells them in verses that His mission is like that of a merchant who seeks beautiful pearls. As we ponder Jesus ministry as a merchant we can see the following things. Just as a merchant's life was consumed with the desire to find pearls, Jesus' life was consumed with the desire to save people. As a merchant's mission couldn't be stopped by dangerous seas, storms or roads, Jesus mission to save the world couldn't be stopped by the schemes of man, storms of Satan or the fear of the cross.

Jesus ends this parable by saying that one day this merchant found a pearl of great price.

The merchant was so excited and in love with this one pearl that he sold everything, just to buy this one pearl.

Jesus did the same as the excited merchant, instead it wasn't for a perishable pearl but it was for us. Jesus loved us so much that He sought us out and when He found us, He was even willing to pay the price for us to be His. The price that Jesus paid was much more than a merchant could ever pay, even if he had to sell all his merchandise and his own ship. Jesus had to pay the debt of fallen man which was life. But not just any life it had to be perfect, without sin, this required Jesus God the Son to leave the glory of Heaven and come to earth to live the life of a man that was despised, rejected, mocked and murdered.

Jesus knew the price to purchase us His pearl, but that didn't stop Him, He went on with it because the Bible says, "For the joy that was set before Him He endured the cross." What was that joy? It was you and I His jewel, Jesus endured the cross so that we could be with Him for ever and also it was so we could live a joyful life and bring Him glory in our setting.

This morning as we meditate on the parable of the merchant we will fall more in love with Jesus when we realize all He did to pay the price for us to be with Him. Also our hearts can be filled with joy as we remember that we are Jesus precious jewel. Let's shine and bring Him glory today!

