

# TREASURE QUEST

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OF THE HEART

## IS IT REALLY A SACRIFICE?

The parable that Jesus tells in this passage of scripture presents so clearly the dynamic of the treasure quest. In order to find the treasure that we desperately seek, we have to be willing to give up everything else.

Sacrifice is at the heart of God's treasure. Look at God's own example. He treasured us and our salvation and redemption so highly that He sacrificed the most precious thing to Him: His son. This parable even challenges the definition of sacrifice. Is it really a sacrifice to gain something so great? When we only look at what we give up, the sacrifice looks immense. The merchant in the story sold everything he had. Yet, in comparison to what he gained the sacrifice is immensely small.

There is no true worship of God without sacrifice. God doesn't desire our leftovers, excess, or obligated rituals. He desires our hearts. Our hearts are given when we give freely from them. This requires giving the costly, the precious, the treasured. You can call it sacrifice, but the reward is far greater than the loss.

### Questions To Think About

- Can you think of something that you wanted so badly that you were willing to sacrifice something else to get it? What did you give up?
- Do you give to God out of obligation ("I have to"), excess ("It was just extra"), or out of real sacrificial worship (read 2 Sam 24:24)?
- What is an area of your life that you could sacrifice from in order to give to God more faithfully?



<sup>45</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

MATTHEW 13:45-46

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