

“The Treasure that Is God”

By Tom Hanson

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1 Corinthians 2:9-10 ...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard...

But God has revealed them unto us, even the deep things of God. It's the love of God that reigns; thank God for it. Today we're having what's known as “a farmer's rain.” It's a slow, steady rain; it's not so hard as to damage crops, but it's steady enough to soak into the ground so that the roots of the plants can absorb it. Farmers need this kind of rain. God is perfect; God is in control. He's not getting old; He's not getting weary; He's not getting tired. He's not taking a day off; He's not a deadbeat dad that doesn't want to provide for his children. As overwhelming and perfect as Heaven will be, the entire blessing of being in Heaven will be the privilege of being in God's presence. The beauty of Heaven is the presence of God in our lives. He's like a trainer in your corner, telling you things about the other fighter to help you be victorious. You may not understand what He's telling you, but He's had a lot of experience at this sort of thing. God is in control.

1 Corinthians 15:57 ...God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word 'treasure' first appears in the Bible in Genesis 43:23, and it means a hidden treasure, something valuable.

Genesis 43:23 ...the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks...

God put a treasure in the sacks of the Children of Israel. Today, he is putting a treasure into a trusted container.

Matthew 6:19-21 ...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...

Don't misunderstand me, God wants us to be good stewards, and to provide for our families, but our hopes and our dreams should be in God.

Colossians 1:25-27 ...God would make known what is the riches of the glory...

Do you ever watch Antiques Roadshow? A lot of times people go on that show with something that they think is an old family treasure, only to find out that it isn't worth anything. At the same time, a lot of times people have things that are very valuable and they just have no idea. I know that, when my time comes, I don't want to be appraised as being of no value to God. I want to uplift people, bring them closer to God.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. This is kind of a specialty pearl shop. To our visitors, I hope that you understand that Jesus is our King in this room.

Treasure Hunting:

Jeremiah 29:11-13 ...ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

God has given us a promise here, that we can find Him when we search for Him with a whole heart. He's searching for us, too. He is not a second-rate god, or a second-tier god. He wants to have a relationship with us.

Ruth 1:16 ...thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

There were some treasure hunters in Nova Scotia, and somehow they located a treasure chest believed to have been part of Blackbeard's treasure. They had to dig several feet down into the sand to get to it, and, by the time they did, it was very late. So they decided to leave it until the next day to actually hoist the treasure chest out of the hole. During the night, though, the tide came in and buried the chest again. They never did find it again.

Naomi told both of her daughters-in-law to go back to their Midianitish families. Ruth's sister-in-law went back to her family, but Ruth insisted on going with Naomi. A lot depends upon your commitment to God. If your commitment is what it should be, then it will give you a legacy; you will be able to outlast problems and trials. You will have His Spirit to bless you. Love is that one emotion that is purer and more powerful. Love can be the driving force in your life. The treasure that God is in our lives is something to fight for; something to seek after.

Israel is God's chosen people; we were grafted in, that was perfect surgery. We are now Children of Israel; we are part of God's family. God will bless you beyond all expectations. Ruth had a legacy. I don't think there were any newspapers in her day, she didn't have to worry about her actions becoming front page news, but she told Naomi, "I need what you have." Follow after God.

Treasure Finding:

We find the treasure; we find God, because He encourages us. When you recognize a true treasure, it captivates your mind.

Matthew 13:45-46 ...pearl of great price...

If you have found Christ, be decisive. There are story after story of people that made it all the way. We haven't made it yet, but we're getting there. If we were to go around the room today, and ask everybody how long they have been saved, there would be a lot of variation in the answers, but, one thing that we all have in common is, if asked, "Aren't you ready to just quit?" the answer would be, "No, I don't want to give it up."

Luke 15:8 ...seek diligently...

You don't know what you have until you lose it. You don't know how much people love you until you get lost. We have all stumbled, and yet, we can find peace in God. He gives us instruction; sometimes He's telling us, "Watch out for that left hook!" If we listen to Him, he will bring us through.

Treasure Keeping:

2 Corinthians 4:1-7 ...we have this treasure in earthen vessels...

Sometimes we over eat physically; it's okay to spiritually take in too much.
Earlier, we talked about God putting treasure into sacks. Now we're talking about God putting His treasure in us. You can make it. Let's keep the treasure polished and alive.

