

JESUS DID IT ALL! We Are Each His Treasure Treat Your Spouse & Others As His Treasure

February 25, 2024 - Part 4

1 Peter 2 ⁹ <u>But you are God's chosen <u>treasure</u></u>—priests who are kings, a spiritual "nation" set apart as God's devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and <u>now he claims you as his very own</u>. He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders *throughout the world*. TPT

Hebrews 12 ² We look away from the natural realm and <u>we focus our attention and expectation onto Jesus</u> who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. His example is this: <u>Because his heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be his, he endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation, and now sits exalted at the right hand of the throne of God! TPT</u>

Matthew 13 ³⁷ He answered, "The man who sowed his field with good <u>seed is the Son of Man</u>. ³⁸ And <u>the field is the world</u>. The good seeds I sow are the children of the kingdom realm. The weeds are the children of the Evil One, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest points to the end of this age, and the harvesters are God's messengers. ⁴⁰ As the weeds are bundled up and thrown into the fire, so it will be at the close of the age. ... ⁴⁴ "<u>Heaven's kingdom realm</u> can be illustrated like this: "A person discovered that there was <u>hidden treasure in a field</u>. Upon finding it, he hid it again. <u>Because of uncovering such treasure</u>, <u>he was overjoyed and sold all that he possessed to buy the entire field *just so he could have the treasure*. TPT</u>

Note: Matthew 13:44 The most accepted interpretation of this parable is that Jesus is the treasure, but Jesus taught that the field is the world. The allegory breaks down, for a believer doesn't sell all he has (works) and then buy the world to find Jesus (the treasure). It is more plausible to view the hidden treasure as a symbol of you and me. Jesus is the man who sold all that he owned, leaving his exalted place of glory to come and pay for the sin of the whole world with his own blood just so he could have you, his treasure. Heaven's kingdom realm is experienced when we realize what a great price Jesus places on our souls, for he gave his sacred blood for us. The re-hiding of the treasurer is a hint of our new life, hidden in God. ... Vs 46 The Aramaic is "unique." Jesus is the merchant. You are the exquisite and unique pearl, as his beloved follower, that came from the wounded side of Jesus Christ. You prompted him to give up all, including his sacred blood, in exchange for having you as his very own.

Proverbs 18 ²² When a man finds a wife, he has found a *treasure*! For she is the gift of God to bring him joy and pleasure. TPT

Your wife is the only woman who has ever loved you for who you are. Your mom loves you because you are her son, your siblings love you because you are their brother, your children love you because you are their father. But your wife is on another level. That's why you must give her the value and respect she deserves.

Ephesians 5 ²⁰ Always give thanks to Father God for every person he brings into your life in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ And out of your reverence for Christ be supportive of each other in love. ²² For wives, this means being devoted to your husbands like you are tenderly devoted to our Lord, ²³ for the husband provides leadership for the wife, just as Christ provides leadership for his church, as the Savior and Reviver of the body. ²⁴ In the same way the church is devoted to Christ, let the wives be devoted to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ And to the husbands, you are to demonstrate love for your wives with the same tender devotion that Christ demonstrated to us, his bride. For he died for us, sacrificing himself ²⁶ to make us holy and pure, cleansing us through the showering of the pure water of the Word of God. ²⁷ All that he does in us is designed to make us a

mature church for his pleasure, until we become a source of praise to him—glorious and radiant, beautiful and holy, without fault or flaw. ²⁸ <u>Husbands have the obligation of loving and caring for their wives the same way they love and care for their own bodies, for to love your wife is to love your own self. ²⁹ No one abuses his own body, but pampers it—serving and satisfying its needs. That's exactly what Christ does for his church! ³⁰ He serves and satisfies us as members of his body. ³¹ For this reason a man is to leave his father and his mother and lovingly hold to his wife, since the two have become joined as one flesh. ³² <u>Marriage is the beautiful design of the Almighty</u>, a great mystery of Christ and his church. ³³ <u>So every married man should be gracious to his wife just as he is gracious to himself</u>. <u>And every wife should be tenderly devoted to her husband</u>.</u>

1 Peter 3⁻¹ And now let me speak to the wives. Be devoted to your own husbands, so that even if some of them do not obey the Word of God, your kind conduct may win them over without you saying a thing. ² For when they observe your pure, godly life before God, it will impact them **deeply**. ... ⁵ Holy women of long ago who had set their hopes in God beautified themselves with lives lived in deference to their own husbands' authority. 6 For example, our "mother," Sarah, devoted herself to her husband, Abraham, and even called him "master." And you have become her daughters when you do what is right without fear and intimidation. ⁷ Husbands, you in turn must treat your wives with tenderness, viewing them as feminine partners who deserve to be honored, for they are co-heirs with you of the "divine grace of life," so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 8 Now, this is the goal: to live in harmony with one another and demonstrate affectionate love, sympathy, and kindness toward other believers. Let humility describe who you are as you dearly love one another. 9 Never retaliate when someone treats you wrongly, nor insult those who insult you, but instead, respond by speaking a blessing over them—because a blessing is what God promised to give you. 10 For the Scriptures tell us: Whoever wants to embrace true life and find beauty in each day 11 must stop speaking evil, hurtful words and never deceive in what they say. Always turn from what is wrong and cultivate what is good; eagerly pursue peace in every relationship, making it your prize. 12 For the eyes of the Lord Yahweh rest upon the godly, and his heart responds to their prayers. But he turns his back on those who practice evil. TPT

Treat your wife better than you treat anything or anyone. That's our covenant with God. That's your first ministry. To love her the way Christ loves the church is a high calling. If you fail at that, you've failed at everything.

50% Of Marriages End In Divorce 26% Of Couples Who Go To Church Together End In Divorce 0.006% Of Marriages Where Couples Pray Together End In Divorce

The power of love and acceptance cannot be overstated. Criticism, belittling, shaming, or any other form of manipulation will never make them be what you want them to be. In fact, those who feel criticized, rejected usually dig their heels in and become more defensive and existent to change. It's a well-known fact that people are only motivated to change if they feel loved, appreciated, and accepted. (Exceptions would be abuse, violence, betrayal) **Acceptance Paradox**: To get people to change, you first have to accept them as they are, warts and all only then will they be able to consider the possibility of changing.

Husbands and Wives To Pray Together

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the sacred bond of marriage, a covenant built on love, trust, and commitment. Bless our union with your grace, wisdom and understanding. Help us to cherish and honor each other, to be patient and forgiving in times of difficulty, and to celebrate the joys of companionship and partnership. Grant us the strength to weather life's storms together, and the courage to grow and evolve as individuals and as a couple. May our marriage be a reflection of your love and a beacon of hope to others. Amen