

Wednesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mt 13:44-46): Jesus said to his disciples: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

Parables of the "Treasure" and the "Pearl" (the Kingdom of God)

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, we listen to Jesus saying —for the umpteenth time— that the Kingdom of Heaven "is like..." Truly, God and His Kingdom are very rich and great realities; and to approach them with human words, Jesus Christ uses a wide range of comparisons. Only by accepting all their ensemble can we come close to Christ's message.

"God's sovereignty" is a "mysterious" reality. In history it is discreetly presented (as the "yeast"), but it is determining and of great value: His Kingdom is worth abandoning everything else. It is the "Treasure Hidden in the Field": he who finds it hides it again and sells all he has, to buy that field and retain the treasure. A parallel parable is that of the "Pearl of Great Price": who found it went away and sold everything he had to buy it, for it was worth more than anything else.

—O Lord, my King, help me to get rid of "things" to make room for your sovereignty.