Series: Fear Not: Trusting Christ in the Midst of Crisis **Sermon:** Jesus is Our Treasure (Part Two) and Peace

Scripture: Matthew 13:44, Luke 12:32-34, Philippians 3:8, John 14:27 (ESV)

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<u>Main Idea:</u> As worldly treasures come and go, an unworldly treasure exists, whose riches are endless and in whom are found pleasures forevermore.

Main Point: The treasure that we long for is Jesus and His Kingdom.

Matthew 13:44

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Three Types Of Treasure:

Part One:

1. Fake Treasure to Resist and Reject

Part Two:

- 2. Real Treasure to Steward
- 3. Supreme Treasure to Value Above All

Luke 12:32-34

Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

William Hendriksen, New Testament Commentary

What Jesus is saying is that believers must differ in their inner yearnings, must set their hearts on different things, must be controlled by different ideals, and must be motivated by a different love.

When church members hardly differ at all from "outsiders" in the ambitions they cherish, in the goals they try to achieve, in the manner in which they react to the disappointments and adversities in life, in the way they conduct their social events and parties, in the kind of literature they prefer to read, in the songs they prefer to sing, in their choice of friends with whom they feel at home, etc., there is something very wrong

Michael Reeves, "Rejoicing in Christ"

The gorgeous truth of the marriage between the risen Christ and His people is that the new life we are given with Him is no cold, contractual affair. We are not brought to be mere acceptable serfs of a benevolent autocrat. No, Christ treasures His bride. In Isaiah 62, God's people are told:

"You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate.

But you will be called Hephzibah ["my delight is in her"], and your land Beulah ["married"];

For the Lord will take delight in you...

As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you." (Isaiah 62:3-5)

His people are described as a crown: a precious treasure, a reward and sign of honor. Just like a beloved wife, who is the crown of her husband (Prov. 12:4). And, astonishingly, she is not some odious charity case for Him: she makes His pupils dilate and His heart sing. He delights in her and will not stop. She is truly, deeply, passionately loved.

When we know that we know 2 things, we find peace:

- 1. That He is the treasure of this life
- 2. That we are the treasure of His heart

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Philippians 3:8

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the <u>surpassing worth</u> of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.