Introduction

Jesus is giving a group of parables on the similitudes of his kingdom. He speaks of mustard seed, leaven, and hidden treasure. Then his mind goes back to a day in the long ago when as a boy he visited in the marketplace. He remembers the noise and clamor, he hears the bartering of the tradesmen. He recalls the coming of a man into that marketplace quite breathless, with a bag of money in his hands. Eagerly he seeks out a certain tradesman, gives him the money, and receives in return a beautiful, opulent pearl in his outstretched palm. With trembling fingers he holds the jewel in the sun's rays. A cry comes from his throat, a cry of joy and happiness. In his hands he holds the most beautiful pearl he had ever seen. Yes, Jesus remembered all of this and said, "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is a merchant seeking goodly pearls: and having found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it".

Discussion

I. There are many noble values in life to be sought by men.
A. Intellectual Freedom
B. Professional Competency or Business Efficiency
C. Personal and family security
D. Esthetic appreciation

II. Among the many values there is one that is supreme.
A. Spiritual adjustment.

Coordination and integration.
H. C. Link. Christ and His Kingdom. Mental attitudes control the material, moral attitudes control the mental, spiritual attitudes control the moral. St. Paul's Chapel.

Isaiah and His poise.
Jesus when they came to capture him. Consciousness of God.

Lincoln - "Lonely"
Washington
(C. C. P. Feb. 1939, p. 26)

B. Divine Direction.

Jesus came to make God's will accessible to each soul. Horace Bushnell.

III. This Supreme Value comes to our lives not only as a discovery but also an achievement.
A. We search, God aids us.

Gospel, Church, Christ, Christian People.

B. Repentance and Faith
C. Precious Possession
D. Eternal life is a gift but it must be lived. Book, a gift but must be read. Kingdom of God is a great discovery but we must explore it and grow in it to realize its value.
Conclusion

Paul made the discovery of the Kingdom of God and forsook position, power, and prominence that he might have Christ. Augustine forsook his darling sins that he might know Jesus.

The discovery of the Kingdom of heaven is our supreme discovery in life and is worthy of our entire devotion.

Broadus - Commentary on Matthew.
Buttrick, G. A., "Parables of Jesus" Bible