

**Date** : 18 December 2022

**Theme** : The Christ of Christmas

**Topic** : Treasure Jesus Highly

**Key Verse** : Colossians 2:3

**Christ In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**

## Introduction

Everyone has treasure, regardless of your age, status, whether you are rich or poor, your gender, or your educational background. That is where you put your affections and attention to – may be your money, possessions, degree, relationship, reputation, fame, or time.

The Word of God does not condemn possessions or ownership or enjoying what God has provided us in this earthly life. But it does warn us about treasuring the wrong treasures that does not last – where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal.

As Christmas is just round the corner, we celebrate Christmas remembering Jesus as a babe in a manger, and joy to the world - a Saviour is born. We often overlook Jesus Himself is the true priceless Treasure that many people did not appreciate and remain ignorant. Jesus, the Son of God is the treasure of treasures. He is the One from whom all blessings flow. Apostle Paul expressed his deepest longings as this: *“I have suffered the loss of all things and count them rubbish in order that I may gain Christ.”*

## What great treasures can we find in Jesus?

**Embedded in Christ are ALL hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge** Colossians 2: 3

### 1. Treasure His Name

*Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord... Philippians 2:9-11*

- A name is an identity to describe who the person is, and to express His character
  - The Son of God entered earth in human form with this name

#### a) Why is Jesus' Name a great treasure?

##### i) This Name carries the Highest Authority

- The Name that God the Father highly exalts in heaven
- Jesus is the Lord over all creation
  - His Name is above all names - that every knee must bow in worship
  - The Lord of lords Revelation 19:6
  - The only One who will be the centre of worship throughout eternity Rev 21:22
- Demons tremble and flee at His Name
- The Name that has the power to transform
  - Saves, heals, resurrects, protects, forgives, breaks bondages of bad habits and curses, releases blessings and wisdom
  - Performing miracles, turning impossibilities into possibilities
- Jesus is the highest Judge of mankind

##### ii) No other Name can save us from sin and death, only Jesus the Lord

*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12*

- His name means 'Saviour' – the One who saves us from the penalty and power of sin

### iii) We call this Name because He is alive and is life-giving

- He is able to answer those who call His Name

### b) Why is His Name so worthy of being treasured?

- i. He paid the cost of our redemption
- ii. Jesus fulfilled the requirements to be our Sin Offering *Romans 8:3*
  - Sin Offering – a requirement for our forgiveness
  - Sin is the root cause of death, judgment leading us to eternal punishment in hell
    - Jesus was crucified laying down His life willingly for us *Mark 14:12*
    - Only His sacrifice was good enough to cleanse us of our sin

### c) Treasure His name - by giving reverence to His precious Name

- Engage our hearts in our worship
- Make effort to give praise to His Name and speak His Name in testimony
- Attribute glory to His Name for praiseworthy deeds He has done for you
- Do not deny His Name

## 2. Treasure His Love

*See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!*

### a) Why is His love such a great treasure?

*1 John 3:1*

**The Extent of His Love for us is demonstrated in 4 ways:**

#### i) The Greatness of what it COSTS Him

- We know the extent of someone's love is measured by the extent of the costs he pays
- The full extent of His sacrifice - the giving of all of Himself without reservation is a demonstration of His great love
- His first coming to planet earth involved great sacrifices
  - Denied his rights and heaven's glory to come
  - Endured contradiction of man
  - Rejected, humiliated and suffered in the hands of evil man
  - Forsaken by the Father as our sin bearer
  - Died as our substitute for our sins

#### ii) The Recognition of how little we DESERVE it

*'He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him'* *John 1:11*

- That which is worthy is being regarded as a worthless object of hate and disgust

#### iii) He chooses to love us FIRST while we are yet sinners

- Jesus chose to sacrifice his life voluntarily *John 10:18*
  - Why would He choose to lay down his life for someone who not only does not appreciate Him but goes all out to hurt and nails Him to death

#### iv) We BENEFIT much; no one ever loved us like Jesus

- We see the extent of Jesus' love by the greatness of the benefits we receive in being loved by Him
- He provided us with a '**Divine Exchange**': *2 Corinthians 8:9*  
He was rich but for our sakes He became poor so that we can share His riches
  - Jesus was punished - So that we can be forgiven
  - Jesus was pierced and wounded - So that we can be healed

- Jesus was made sin with our sin – To make us righteous with His righteousness
- Jesus tasted death - So that we can share his life

### **b) Treasure His love, value it highly by Loving Him Back:**

- Love His Word *John 15:10*
  - Keep His commands *John 14:15*
- Serve one another with humility
  - Preach His Word
- Commit never to depart from the Lord, nor betray Him *Romans 8:37-39*
  - Guard against love of things in the world - self, money, pleasure, power  
*1 John 2:15-17; 2 Tim 3:2-5*

### **3. Treasure His Home**

*My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? John 14:2*

#### **a) Why is His Home such a great treasure?**

**Heaven is Jesus' Eternal Home – to which we are invited** *John 6:38*

##### **i. Heaven is our True Home**

- For children of God, redeemed by the blood of Jesus in covenant relationship
- Heavenly citizenship, members of God's family *Philippians 3:20, Ephesians 2:19;*

##### **ii. Heaven is a Perfect Place designed to house our new resurrected bodies**

- Place of perfect purity without sin and curse
- No more death, sickness, tears, pain, and suffering
- All our wounds are finally healed with the new resurrected bodies

##### **iii. Heaven is a Happy Place of Everlasting Joy** *Matthew 25:21*

- Joy of His Presence
  - Experiencing unending overflowing joy of intimacy with Jesus
  - Spontaneous worship with enthusiastic singing
- Joy of Reunion and fellowship with loved ones and the saints
  - Reunion of family members
  - Fellowship with saints from every tongue, tribe, and nation
  - There will be banquets, fun activities and sharing of hearts and knowledge
- Joy of Receiving Eternal Rewards and Inheritance
  - Jesus wants to bless and reward us for the things that we do in His Name
- Joy of Learning and working
  - Heavens will be an infinite world of new discoveries as the Lord unfolds to us
  - Work in heaven is never boring, stressful but enriching, enjoyable and fulfilling

#### **b) Treasure His Home - by investing your lives with the eternal destiny in mind**

- Store up treasure for your future *1 Timothy 6:17-19*
  - Be generous to those in need
  - Use your resources and money to get involve in good works
- Set your heart on being ready while waiting and longing for His Return *2 Timothy 4:8*

### **Applications**

1. How would you express your gratitude to treasure Jesus' love?
2. In this Christmas season, how would you value and treasure Jesus more?