

### *PARABLES ON THE CHURCH*

the support of men, it invites them to come under her shelter to enjoy her protection. "Come thou with us," she says, "and we shall do thee good."

In the parables of "The Hidden Treasure" and "The Pearl of Great Price" Christ indicates the different attitude of individuals towards His Grace offered through the Church. She carries the Grace of God to men. In this sense they find it without search, for who would expect the heathen to go on a pilgrimage to a Christian land in search of the Grace they so much need? But when it is taken to them and when by faith they appropriate it to themselves, they truly rejoice in the treasure they possess.

Still it is also true that many, having heard of Christ and His Grace, earnestly and diligently seek the Pearl of Great Price. It is not to them an unexpected and somewhat sudden find, but after careful self-examination, after prayerful study of God's Word, after much conscientious reasoning, and it may be after

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