



# ***REFLECTIONS***

November 9, 2014

**But seek first his kingdom and his  
righteousness, and all these things will be  
given to you as well.**

*Matthew 6:33*

## **Treasure Hunting**

Our little dog seems to enjoy his time in the yard just sniffing around. Sometimes we just watch him as he wanders about the yard, nose to the ground, treasure hunting. Usually he is in pursuit of something to eat; often he is seeking the scent of intruders into his territory; and sometimes we find him in search of something he has lost. Treasure hunting is something inbred in his makeup and watching him can be an entertaining pastime. But treasure hunting is not limited to the animal kingdom. Treasure hunting is a human activity as well.

Whether it is something to add to possessions, or a relationship to fill a void, or a cure for a painful ailment, it seems we are always in search of something. There is a perceived need built into human nature that sends us into daily pursuits. Most basic of those needs are food, shelter, and safety, but there are elements to search for that go beyond those basic needs. The desires to sustain a way of life, or to honor a legacy, or to gain position and power often are motivations that send us into our own form of treasure hunting.

Jesus tells of the rich man who needed to build more barns to hold his grain. He told of the prodigal son who wanted to receive his inheritance so he could go in search of life's pleasures. And he told of would be disciples who placed personal priorities above following him. All were protecting treasures they had or in search of ways to add to their abundance.

Treasure hunting can be lots of fun at times; but it can also become as addictive as any drug. The pursuit of earthly treasure can easily cause one to lose sight of the truly important things of life. Jesus posed the question, "*For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?*" (Mark 8:36 NKJV) He also offered the answer, "*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*" (Matthew 6:33)

Like our little dog, much of our time is dedicated to treasure seeking. We seek to sustain a way of life, to honor a legacy, or to gain position and power. But the treasure to seek is not found in those worldly things. The treasure is found in God's kingdom. The treasure is the presence of God.

In his kingdom all needs are satisfied.

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard +*

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