# 'One Pearl' of great price.

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We can see several passages in the Bible that refer to pearls, the most well known one is an allegory about the "pearly gates" of heaven and "casting pearls before swine". But.....How can I forget that merchant man ;seeking beautiful pearls in 'Matthew 13: 45-46'.



The portions mentioned of Pearls in the Bible are:

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### Matthew 7:6.

"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you." Those days they knew well the value of pearls. So Jesus symbolically says: don't cast your pearls before swine. Here the pearl denotes the word of God.

# Job 28:18

No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls; for the price of wisdom is far above rubies. Here Job describes the value of wisdom comparing with the precious gems.

### I Timothy 2:9

In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing,

### Revelations 17:4

The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.



And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. (Revelation 17:5,6).

# Revelations 18:12

"merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble;

### Revelations 18:16

"and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!

### Song of Solomon 1:10

Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments, your neck with strings of pearls.

### Revelations 21:21

The twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl.

Matthew 13: 45 ,46.

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"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it."

In this parable Jesus compared the Kingdom of Heaven to a 'merchant man', seeking 'beautiful pearls'. While the merchant was seeking pearls; he found 'one pearl of great price.' That was 'Church of Christ'. A merchant (Jesus Christ) was sent from heaven to the earth to seek good pearls (believers) for the kingdom of heaven.



Inorder to purchase that one pearl of great price (Church) he sold everything he had. He sold everything on Calvary .



# Pearls are unique among all gems



The pearl is absolutely unique among all other gemstones available in the world, because it is the only gem that is grown inside a living organism. The Church of Christ is unique from all other churches in this world because Church of Christ is the only one is the body of living Jesus Christ. Church was the hidden secret of God which was revealed through Jesus Christ. The body of Christ means Church, which is made up of all those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Those who accepted Jesus Christ is a part of the body of Christ.

# Ephesians 5:32

This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

# 1 Cor. 12:27.

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

### Colossians 1:18,24

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. I now rejoice

in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church.

#### Romans12:4,5

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

### Ephesians 5:30

For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

### Ephesians1:22,23

And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

### 1 Corinthians 12:12

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

### Dear readers,

Are you a member of the Church of Christ? If not today itself confess of your sins and accept Jesus Christ as your saviour. To become a member of the Church of Christ is a great privileged one.

### Romans 10:9-13

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord

over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

### Pearls are known as the 'Queen of Gems'.

Ruby is known as the king of all gems, but the pearl is the queen of all gems; because it has uniqueness than other gems. It has been considered the most wonder, magical and feminine of all gems and are the only one created by a living organism.



It has an important place in all the religions of the world. It is said that pearl is the best symbol of femininity ,innocence ,wisdom, charity and beauty. The pearl is also symbolized by the bride. Pearls are coveted, especially by women in the world over as the classic feminine ornamentation. Long been a favorite for brides and newly weds .There is a long standing tradition that a bride wears a strand of pearls on her wedding day .

Church is the bride of Lord Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ is the bride groom.

### 2 Cor. 11:2,3.

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

#### Ps 45:13,14,15.

The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace; Her clothing is woven with gold. She shall be brought to the King in robes of many colors; The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You. With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace.

#### Revelation 21:9,10.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God

### Rev. 19:7,8.

"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints

# John 3:29

"He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled.

A natural pearl is formed in a mother pearl with no human intervention.

It is read that natural pearls, are formed naturally in oysters living at sea without any encouragement from humans. Natural pearls are formed randomly and really are simple accidents of nature or chance.



When a certain type of irritant, such as a parasite, becomes lodged in the tissue of a mollusk, the animal responds by secreting a calcium carbonate in minute crystalline form, which has been deposited in concentric layers. The oyster, being irritated by the intruder, secretes the pearl substance called nacre to cover the irritant or protect the mollusk. This process is repeated for many years, thus producing a real pearl. The perfect natural pearls are 1 in a million. Today, most pearls are cultured, which means an irritant is intentionally introduced into the oyster to produce pearls.

Church of Jesus Christ was formed without any human intervention. He earned his church by paying a great price. Just as a pearl is formed as a result of uncomfortable suffering, the body of Jesus also bore much suffering to form the church. When his body was beaten up and nailed by the Jewish soldiers his blood dropped from his body. By his precious blood he covered the sin of many sinners and made them precious living stones.

### 1 peter 2:5

you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

### A pearl is truly a thing of beauty.

Natural Pearl is a true gift of nature, created only by chance. It is perfect as it is. There is no need to enhance it's beauty. The Pearl has been cherished by men and women for thousands of years.

# Song of Solomon 6:1,4-10

Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, That we may seek him with you? O my love, you are as

beautiful as Tirzah, Lovely as Jerusalem, Awesome as an army with banners! Turn your eyes away from me, For they have overcome me. Your hair is like a flock of goats Going down from Gilead. Your teeth are like a flock of sheep which have come up from the washing; Every one bears twins, And none is barren among them. Like a piece of pomegranate Are your temples behind your veil. There are sixty queens And eighty concubines, And virgins without number. My dove, my perfect one, Is the only one, The only one of her mother, The favorite of the one who bore her. The daughters saw her And called her blessed, The queens and the concubines, And they praised her. Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

Dear Believer,

How beautiful! you are in the sight of God.

### The risks of Pearl divers

Pearl diving, was one of the most dangerous of the occupations. The pearl diver's life in the seas is very risky. There is a chance for dying and paralysis. Jesus Christ had died on calvary to own that 'one pearl of that great price' (church).



# Romans 8:32

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

#### John 3:16,17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

#### Romans 8:34

Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

### Pearls are one of the world's most natural wonder.

Away from human eyes and under the depth of the sea the secret fruit is preserved, beautiful and divine. According to Persian mythology, pearls were the tears of the gods. The ancient Chinese believed that only the moonlight had the power to make pearls grow. The Greeks thought pearls is the dew from the moon collected by oysters when they floated on the surface of the sea at night.

# Song of Songs 5:2

I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night.

### Proverbs 19:12

The king's wrath is as the roaring of a lion; but his favour is as dew upon the grass.

# Deuteronomy 32:2

My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass.

## Numbers 11:9

And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell upon it.

#### Psalms 110:3

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.

### Deuteronomy 33:13

And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath.

#### Job 38:28

Hath the rain a father? Or who hath begotten the drops of dew?

Yes, Dew is the precious things of heaven. I was floating in the darkness of this world. When the dew of heaven (The favour of God), fell upon me I became the living stone.



By the grace of God I became the child of God and became the member of the church.



Oh! It is a real wonder. Church is the fruit of the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. She is preserved in his body. Church of Christ will be the world's most wonderous one among the nations in the millennium, hallelujah. On that day saints of Christ will rule over all the nations with Jesus Christ. Everybody will wonder by looking that 'one pearl of great price' which is purchased by the great merchant Jesus Christ.

### Song of Songs 6:10

Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

#### Malachi 3:17,18

"They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him." Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.

#### Isaiah 2:3

Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

#### Revelation 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

# Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

# Pearl is valuable

Natural pearls is a treasure of incomparable value. Natural pearls are rare and expensive. The quality and value of the pearls is determined by a combination of the luster(shine), shape (rounder), color and size and its rarity.

Luster is the most important criteria in determining price. The quality of the luster is directly related to how even and smooth the layers of nacre are. This is the inner glow that comes from within the pearl, this is produced by light entering the pearl and reflecting back through the layers of nacre. A pearl with no reflection or a dull color is of poor quality.

The word of God is the true light which lightens the eye of the heart of a man. The body of a believer whose eye of the heart is not lightened will be darken. when we meditate the word of God daily it will enlighten the eye of our heart and we will reflect more.

#### Matthew 6:22,23

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

#### Proverbs 13:9

The light of the righteous rejoices, But the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

### Ephesians 5:8

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

#### 2 corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

# Ephesians 1:18

the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

### Dear readers,

That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He (Jesus Christ) came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. ( John 1:9-12). But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.

### Pearls Color and Tone

Pearls colour is dependent upon the colour of the mother pearl. The most highly prized pearls are bright white, very round, and without blemish. White colour symbolises wisdom, purity, perfection. Pearl have an undefinable "pureness" about them, a chaste beauty that's undeniable. Church is pure and perfect in the sight of God. The Children of God are Holy people. She is retaining the purity of discipline and Holiness of life orderly state and the ability to behave in a controlled and calm. The children of God should keep the standard and discipline in the church of God according to the word of God.

### Ephesians 5:26,27.

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

### Shape of the pearl.

It is said that pearls come in eight basic shapes: round, semi-round, button, drop, pear, oval, baroque, and circled. The shape of a natural pearl depend upon the shape of the foreign body entered. Perfectly round pearls are the rarest and most valuable. A shiny, hard, rounded shape pearl, without any flaws, is actually a real-life 'miracle' and it is very rare and valuable. Jesus Christ has no beginning and no end. He is Alpha and Omega. Church is the body of Christ which is formed to perfection by Our Lord.

### Pearls are made of a soluble chemical and can easily be damaged.

A Pearl is an organic gem. Nacre is made of calcium carbonate. Pearls is soluble and can easily be damaged by oils, perfumes and some other chemicals.

Church is strong only through Jesus Christ, she is unable to do anything without her husband Jesus Christ. She can do everything through Christ.

#### 2 corinthians 12:9.

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

### Natural Pearls can be distinguished by X-ray examination?

Natural pearls are very rare and highly valuable and admirable and can be bought only with x-ray certificate which proves that it is natural, and states its quality. Today Many people are named as Christians. But when Jesus Christ examines each person through his X-ray eyes, He will reveal who is the true believer of Jesus Christ. Are you a true believer?

#### Revelation 20:5

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. On that day he will examine each person wheather he is washed by the blood of Jesus Christ. If he is not washed by the blood of Jesus Christ he will be cast into fire.

### Matthew 13: 41- 43

The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, "and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. "Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

# 1Corinthians 3:11-15.

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

### Pearl is symbol of love and wealth.



Pearl is lovable and favoured.\_The pearl was the favoured gem of the wealthy during the Roman Empire. Roman women wore pearls to bed so they could be reminded of their wealth immediately upon waking up. More than 2000 years ago, Cleopatra, the last Queen of Egypt, made a bet with Marc Antony that she could host the most expensive meal in history.He was shocked as the Queen sat down to an empty plate and a goblet of wine vinegar. Queen Cleopatra dissolved a pearl from one of her earrings valued today at approximately 5 million dollars in wine and drank it in front of Mark Anthony as a display of her wealth and love for him.

God loves each and every one of us so much. He offers us the most beautiful gift (salvation). He offered us even his life to us. And also he has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. Church is rich in Christ.

### Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

# Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### Song of songs 2:4

He brought me to the banqueting house, And his banner over me was love.

#### 1John 4:9,10

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

# A fine pearl needs no polishing or cutting.

Pearls are a natural product it does not require the need of cutting, reshaping ,polishing or designing unlike other stones. It comes to us as a complete and lustrous package created by God through nature. Pearls are naturally arrived and polished in mother pearl into a beautiful form.

Before transformation, believers need cutting and reshaping to bear fruits as Jesus desire. But after transformation there is no need to cut and polish. The pearl reminds us that once we were a rough grain of sand that became transformed overtime when the dew of heaven (God'd favour)fell on these grains. It gradually grew into an object of great value and beauty.

# Pearls – An exclusive privilege for royalty.

Natural pearls were so rare and expensive, they were reserved almost exclusively for the noble, very rich and royal people. In Ancient times Kings and Queens were collected and wore pearls. Marine pearls were the cherished possession of the daughters of the Holy Land of Jerusalem. Queen Elizabeth1 was said to always wear 7 ropes of pearls that reached to her knees and that she adored 3000 pearl embroidered dresses. Before Queen of Italy, Margherita of Savoy, owned one of the most famous collections of natural pearls. She is wore a multi-strand choker and a rope of pearls, possibly with matching bracelet and earrings. And Portrait of Caterina Sagredo Barbarigo is wearing a single-strand pearl collar and pendant pearl earrings.





Believers are the chosen generation and royal priestshood of the Kingdom of God.

### 1 peter 2:9:

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, and holy nation, a peculiar people that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Dear readers ,the price of virtuous woman is more than pearls. The lady in Proverbs 31 is a woman of wisdom. The wise woman is valuable than all the most precious stones. Church is bought with a great price and not with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ. Her price is far above all precious gems.

Church is a woman of wisdom, purity, perfection, wealth, strength, honour, innocence, elegance, beauty, faith, truth, faithfulness, hardworking, perseverence, meekness and love.

But where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding. Man does not know its value, Nor is it found in the land of the living. Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, And to depart from evil is understanding. (Job28:28).

I praise the Lord for those who are the members of the Church of Christ. But may I ask a question to those who are not a believer, that If Jesus Christ the (bridegroom) come today are you ready to receive Him? Are you still a grain waiting to be transformed? Are you a person that is not valued in this world? Have you become a part of the body of Christ? If not please accept Jesus Christ as your personal saviour. He can save you, and he can make you a valuable person.

Ву,

Sister Lissy Thomas.