

The greatest treasure of all

The recent discovery of the second-largest diamond ever found in Botswana has sparked excitement and renewed hope in the diamond industry. This massive 2,492-carat gemstone, unearthed by the Vancouver-based mining company Lucara, was found in north-eastern Botswana—a region already famous for producing some of the world's most extraordinary diamonds.

This remarkable find is not only a triumph for the natural diamond mining sector, which has been facing increasing competition from lab-produced gems, but it also serves as a powerful reminder of the value that lies in persistence and dedication. As Henry Kissinger once said, "*A diamond is a chunk of coal that did well under pressure.*" This quote beautifully captures the essence of this discovery—an ordinary piece of coal, transformed by immense pressure over time, emerges as a brilliant and valuable diamond.

This transformation reflects a profound spiritual truth as well. In Matthew 13:44, Jesus teaches us that, "*The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.*" Just as the man in the parable recognized the incomparable value of the hidden treasure, so too do we find that the Kingdom of Heaven is worth more than all earthly possessions.

Botswana's President, Mokgweetsi Masisi, proudly showcased this extraordinary diamond, a symbol of both the country's economic reliance on diamond exports and the potential within the natural world that God has created. The diamond, which weighs over a pound, is still awaiting valuation, but experts predict it could fetch tens of millions of dollars.

Lucara's dedication to uncovering these treasures, despite the challenges posed by synthetic alternatives, mirrors the Christian journey—where, under the pressures of life, our faith and perseverance can uncover the priceless treasures of the Kingdom of Heaven.

The systemic diamond industry may present diamonds that look like natural diamonds, but they have been subjected to the pressure of real diamonds.

Life presents its pressure in life but out of this pressure we will emerge as diamonds tested by time, life and pressure that reflects the greatest treasure of them all upon which our lives have been built, Jesus Christ!
