

(Food for thought)

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

“Seeds and Good Ground”



“Jesus mission on earth was to announce the Good News. He spent the brief period of His public life speaking about the kingdom of God – but always in images that the simplest of people could understand. We hear Him speak of seeds and harvest, of good and bad fruit, of faithful and worthless servants, of prodigal sons and good Samaritans, of fish in the sea and birds in the air. He used all of these images to plant the truth of God's love into the minds and hearts of people - not just those who lived during His lifetime, but for those who would read or hear His words in future ages - and especially for us, today.

Having "good ground" really means being open to and aware of the presence of God. It means

letting go of so many of the thoughts and cares that seem so important, and making room for the power and love of God. The seed may never take root, because we become arid with worry; it may be choked to death by our worldly and selfish concerns. It may be scattered to the winds by the relentless whirlwind of activity that we engage in. Only in the good ground of a person who lives each day in faith and love will the seed of God's Word bring forth the harvest of holiness and happiness that He intends.

The Father continues to pour out His gifts in abundance, providing food for our bodies, and for our souls. He certainly continues to sow the seed of His Word, scattering it lavishly, through the printed word multiplying copies of the Scriptures, of inspirational and doctrinal reading, of magazines and pamphlets and books on every subject imaginable. There are the daily and weekly homilies in our Churches, the Bible Study groups, the prayer groups, the support groups, all studying, reflecting, sharing the message of the Word.

For Matthew, faith is a gift; but there is no genuine faith unless it is translated into decisive action. We have to ask, then, what happens to this gift. Does it come to maturity and bear fruit? Does it enrich and change our lives and the world we live in? Where are the signs of a rich harvest?

I guess it all depends on what do we do with the gift. "Blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear."

