

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 7/7/20

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?
- This Sunday: Trinity Sunday

READINGS:

IS 55:10-11

PS 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 (The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest)

ROM 8:18-23

MT 13:1-23 OR 13:1-9

GOSPEL:

- Jesus preaches again from the boat. He teaches in parables - they ask him why later on
 - “Because the knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you”, but not to them. What is he trying to say here? Why some get and not others?
 - If you have you will grow rich, if not will loose whatever you have. Does this seem fair?
 - He speaks in parables to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah, How?
 - The multitude listens but does not hear, looks but does not see. Why is it different with his followers? Would you expect that he tries to make everyone see and hear - is that possible?
 - What he shows and says was longed for from ancient times, it is what the prophets yearned for.
- Parable of the sewer: He tells and then interprets, but is it totally clear after that?
 - The seed falls on various surfaces and has different fates as a result. Only one type makes it.
 - Jesus tells: the seed = different people (not the word itself). What does this symbolize? How does this make sense with the thought of seed as something that becomes something?
 - Who is the sewer? What is the act of sewing o be likened to? What type of seed are you?
 - What is the fruit that the good seed bears?

FIRST READING:

- The Word of the Lord will not be without effect. However, we know that the Word of God is more than language - it is a person. How does this change the interpretation of this passage?
- The word is likened to water that falls not he earth and makes is fertile *and fruitful*.
- The fruitfulness is seen in the provision of seed, and the provision of nourishment
- God’s word achieves the end for which it is sent. What is that end? Are there several ends?
- How does the word moisten? What are the seed grown? What role do we play?

SECOND READING:

- Sufferings of this life are nothing compared to the glory to be revealed. How can this console?
- Creation itself is geared towards the things being revealed. Not because of itself.
 - It “groans” in labor pains (cool image) - what is meant here?
- What is the “slavery to corruption”?
- The “adoption” and “redemption” of our bodies - loaded with symbolism.

—Closing Prayer