Rectoría San Juan de Dios XV Sunday Ordinary Time-Cycle A Is 55, 10-11; Ps 65; Rm 8, 18-23; Mt 13, 1-23 Fr Dante Gabriel Jiménez Muñoz Ledo

Let God Be Sown

The Word that Jesus wants us to receive is the same Word that, in the beginning, created everything that exists. It is Jesus himself who desires to speak to His own from the deepest part of His being, to communicate to them the gift of life and love.

This parable of the sower has endured in the souls of believers for these two thousand years because its meaning is within the grasp of most people, but most of all because it continues to provoke the imagination and the desire and response of each person to give of himself in the spiritual realities.

God wants to enter into each one of us as a seed sown in the earth enters the ground, to remain there in the mystery of the generation of life and, by doing that, to help us to make important progress in our development as persons. He wants us to be able to "see and hear" on another level of understanding so that we can enter into a relationship with Him.

To allow God to be planted in our inner being is so important these days when the world seems so sterile, when individualism and egoism lead us to worn-out satisfactions but not to life. In addition, it is a world that has become closed off; now no one wants to listen to anyone and even less to things of God. It is also a world of simulation and projects never brought to completion.

In the midst of that world, we want to be fertile and to allow God to be planted in our hearts. But how do we begin to do this? How do I confirm that God is truly being sown in my own heart? Beginning by taking some steps:

1-Let us absorb the Word of God.

Let us allow the Word of God to saturate us as did the rain that Isaiah speaks about in the first reading, when the mission of the water is to saturate the earth, returning to the sky only after it has accomplished its mission. In the same way, the Word of God seeks its role: to communicate what is in the heart of God.

And this Word is not only a spoken word, as with human words; this Word of God that He wants to be sown in each person is a Word that contains life and love. It is this Word that gives us the ability to understand everything from God and to dialogue with Him.

But how open are you to the Word of God? How much of the Word of God have you permitted to lodge in your heart? How much of the Word of God do you live with in your daily reality and your transcendent reality?

2-Let us give meaning to history.

Although the world is subjected to disorder and slavery—as St Paul says in his letter to the Romans—we who have the first fruits of the Spirit long for our full realization as children of God; we are bearers of hope and freedom.

Our groaning declares that we are not complete and that we are not perfectly fulfilled, but it also makes it known that our suffering and the suffering of humanity has not been offered to God. When we say we have to give meaning to history, we refer to this, the decision to transcend true suffering as an offering in order to permit God to be sown in our own history.

But at times we are blocked by useless sufferings which are not worthy of offering, that are only vagaries of our immature humanity; these slaveries distract us from being open to giving meaning to history. We must get rid of these foolish sufferings so that we can begin to see true sufferings and the meaning of history.

To be freed from those false sufferings, we need to take "decisive liberating actions." 1

There are many enslavements and vices from which we must free ourselves in order to see with clarity the true suffering that we carry and the meaning that we give to that suffering and to our life as an offering.

3-Let the Word become flesh

As did Mary, the Mother of Christ. Because the Word is a person; the Word is the person of Christ who seeks an intimate and communal relationship. But this means breaking with ideologies that incapacitate God's message. To break with the paradigms I have always held allows me to see farther and more broadly, and to listen with another ability.

¹ For example: A woman was owed money for more than three years. No one paid her and every week in her visit to collect the money, she felt a kind of sickness in her spirit. The day that she gave up having that money, and the debt disappeared from her mind and her heart, she was happy and liberated. She then used the weekly time she had taken for collection to think about her true sickness, about what really brought a groaning into her life.

When we allow God to be sown in our hearts, we will be able to do this. How far did the saints see, from how far away did they hear God? How far do you see at this time of your life and from how far away do you hear?

We can imagine these abilities of the soul; we can dare to see and to listen in a different way, through the lens of a Word that wants to lead us to transcend, through a sense of hearing satisfied by a communication that transports us to the more profound realities and then to understand the mystery of man, of the world, and of God.

But how does one begin to allow the Word to take on flesh, to allow God to be sown? It is essential to make that way your own in the same way you have made anything you consider valuable your own...for example, when you suffered because a loved one was sick or dying and you would have suffered in his place; or when some injustice in the street or the suffering of an indigent provoked a desire in you to embrace him or accompany him along his way so that he would feel that he was not alone. When you have lived like this, you have made that suffering and that person your own. In that way, the Word is received, in that way it is made your own, with its internal communication and with the communication of the divine person who is in you to bear fruit from our nature.

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