

WATCH YOUR SEED/SS. JOACHIM AND ANNE: TUESDAY, 26TH JULY, 2022, WEEK 17, YEAR II.

JEREMIAH 14:17-22; PSALM 79; MATTHEW 13:36-43

In the Gospel of today, we read that after hearing the parable of the dandelion and the wheat, the disciples came to Jesus and asked Him to explain it further to them. There is a lesson here for us - the Word of God becomes more profitable to us when we go beyond reading and listening to meditating on what we have heard, when we meditate so as to understand more and apply it to our lives. Hearing or reading the Word of God without spending time to meditate on it is like the seed that falls on the roadside, it is soon lost. I can also compare it to dipping a tea bag in a cup of hot water and removing it almost immediately - we do not get the flavour of the tea. But when we dip the teabag and leave it for about a minute or so, the tea mixes with the water properly and releases its flavour into it. Then we enjoy the full flavour.

Jesus went on to explain the parable to them. It is about a man sowing good seed and another sowing bad seed. Let's stop here and think. Everything we do in life is like sowing a seed - living is seeding. Whatever we sow, we shall reap sooner or later, in time first, and finally in eternity.

In the First Reading, we have the lamentation of the people of Israel. They sowed disobedience and rebellion and they reaped defeat, sorrow and regret.

Jesus says all who sow evil will spend their eternity in a place befitting of evil-doers.

The virtuous on the other hand, that is, those who live a life of self-discipline, those who revere God, those who live godly lives, those who inspire others and instruct them by word and example on how to live a godly life, those who sow kindness, will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

A good example of those who sowed good seeds in this world are Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They brought Mary up in the ways of God. She was their seed to the world, and now they are in heaven reaping the harvest of their good seed.

Lord Jesus, may the seed of God's Word be fruitful in me. Help me also to be watchful of my ways, that I may sow seeds of holiness, godliness, peace and kindness in this world and reap a harvest of joy in eternity.