



The Sower

Jesus' teachings attracted many ordinary people but the learned priests and scholars did not like it and despised Him.



Once as a large crowd gathered around Him, Jesus told them the story of a sower who scattered seeds on four different types of soil. The first type of ground was hard and the seed could not even sprout.

The second type of ground was stony, the seed began to grow, but its roots could not go deep and soon withered. The third type of ground was thorny, and although the seed took root it was overtaken by the thorns around it. The fourth ground had good soil that allowed the seed to take deep roots, the plant grew strong, and produced fruit.

Through this parable, Jesus wanted to tell the people that whatever may be the difficulties and failures, the Kingdom of God advances and the harvest exceeds all expectations.

Jesus knew that the farmers and other folks from the Palestine countryside knew what it meant to sow seeds in the difficult terrain better than the priests and scholars. He knew the anxiety and uncertainty experienced by farmers while sowing and waiting for the harvest. So He used the simple images of seeds, soil, stone, and thorns in the parable of the sower.

Like the seed sown by a farmer, God's Word may also meet with failure or success. And, just as the farmer keeps sowing despite obstacles, the Word of God must be spread by us so that His kingdom continues to grow.



Word of God

Mark 4: 8 – 9

But some seeds fell on good soil, and the plants sprouted, grew, and bore grain: some had thirty grains, others sixty, and others one hundred." And Jesus concluded, "Listen, then, if you have ears!"

Insight



Fr. Gurien Jacquier, a French Fransalian missionary, arrived in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra in the late 19th century. He lived there and preached Christianity for four decades. Christianity in the Marathwada region is a result of the work done by Jacquierbaba. He is now revered by the locals as a saint.

Notes



There is a famous painting by Vincent Van Gogh (1853 – 1890) on the parable of the sower, made in November 1888. Van Gogh had special interest in sowers and painted over 30 works inspired by them.

my TASK this week

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Read the poem 'Good Ground' by Malcom Guite on the parable of the sower- <http://bit.ly/31L0P5d>