



Saint Paul's Anglican Church

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SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY - SERMON NOTES

Rev. Steven P. Macias Jr.

"The seed is the word of God" (St. Luke 8:11).

- I. Themes of Parable: Harvest, Growth, Power.
 - A. Jesus punctuates the meaning of the parable with his final words on the seed in the good soil: "having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." or "But the seed in the good earth—these are the good-hearts who seize the Word and hold on no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest." (MSG)
 - B. Power of the Seed/Word:
 1. "God anointed Jesus... with power" (Acts 10)
 2. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (Mt 28:18)
 - C. Keys: Dallas Willard explains it this way, "Having the keys is not a matter of controlling access to the kingdom, as is often thought. Keys do not first mean the right to control access, but the enjoyment of access."
- II. Image of Seed throughout the Redemptive narrative.
 - A. And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, "Unto thy seed will I give this land" (Genesis 12:7)
 - B. Jesus as the Son of Joseph (Luke 4:21)
 1. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? (Genesis 37:8)
 2. Joseph saved his brethren, delivered Israel, and became de facto ruler of the world.
- III. Exile Theme in Sowing Seeds
 - A. "Sowing seeds afresh was, indeed, one of the great prophetic images for what would happen when God took his power and reigned after the long years of Israel's exile. The image itself reminds us that God's purposes of salvation are not to rescue people from this world, but to rescue them for this world, to make them his royal priesthood, the people through

whom he will deliver creation itself from corruption and death.”

—NT Wright

IV. There is no harvest without a planting.

A. “Above all, plant the seeds, sow the Word, establish truly Christian churches, free and independent Christian schools. Establish a Christian family life, and a godly operation in your farm or business life. The times may look bad for making a start, but there is no harvest without a planting.” — R. J. Rushdoony