

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Proper of 10

Year A, July 16, 2023

Saint John Episcopal Church.

Lessons:

Genesis 25: 19-34

Psalm 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Power of Jesus's Kingdom

By Reverend William Font Sanchez

'Let anyone with ears listen....'

In the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- A. Genesis has a narrative about God creating everything. God is the one that declares judgment over the creation. "Everything is good."
- But, when everything looked, that could fade away because of the SIN. God always prevailed.
 - Even God started all over again. There is the story of Abraham: the story of the covenant that proves God's authority.
 - Today, in the first lesson, there is the story of Isaac. The same idea of God's authority and plan continues no matter what.

In the Old Testament, always God's Kingdom prevails.

- B. In today's Gospel, we have Jesus proclaiming his Kingdom.

- The Parable of the Sower is one of the most powerful narratives about Jesus's kingdom.
- However, this parable, most of the time, has been read from the perspective of the failures. In other words, most of the time, this parable has been understood in terms of how many have failed (seed on the wrong soil) to receive and understand the gospel.
- Even we have effectively explained and created stereotypes of those who fail to accept Jesus's kingdom.
- Then, at the end of this narrative, we always highlight the miraculous way the Gospel and the Kingdom have survived in this world.

C. However, there is another way to read this Parable. I want to reinforce today the authority of God and Jesus over everything.

- In the same way, God's plan and Kingdom always prevailed in the OT; it succeeded in Jesus' time.
- Jesus is telling the world, especially his people, that his Kingdom is acting and prevailing differently.
- There is nothing that cannot stop it.
- There is no doubt that it will always be opposition to Jesus's kingdom, but the authority of God, Jesus's kingdom, will prevail.

D. Altar.

- On this altar is the seed that continues sustaining the power of Jesus's kingdom.
- Let participate in it.
- And let the world Know. AMEN.