

The Divine Seed

As Jeremiah says: *Break up anew your fallow ground, and sow not upon thorns* (Jer. 4:3). Therefore, that the divine seed may germinate in us, let us first drive forth from our minds all worldly cares.

They are rich and fruitful soil who yield fruit a hundredfold; and good and beautiful are the souls that take deeply into themselves the seeds of the Word, and keep them, and tend them with care. Of these it may be said, as was said by the Lord by the mouth of one of the prophets: *And all nations shall call you blessed: for you shall be a delightful land* (Mal 3:12). For when the divine word falls upon a soul purified of the things that afflicted it, then it takes deep root, and comes forth as an ear of corn, and yields fruit abundantly.

On Luke 8:9; transl. M. F. Toal,
in *Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers*, Vol. I, p. 399.

ἐκ τοῦ Ἁγίου Κυρίλλου

Καθὰ φησιν Ἰερεμίας, "Νεώσατε τοίνυν ἑαυτοῖς νεώματα, καὶ μὴ σπεύριτε ἐν ἀκάνθαις." Οὐκοῦν ἵνα ὁ θεῖος ἡμῖν ἐξανθήσῃ σπόρος προαποβάλλωμεν τῆς ἑαυτῶν διανοίας μερίμνας κοσμικὰς.

Εἴη δ' ἂν γῆ πίων καὶ εὐτοκος, ποιουῖσα καρπὸν ἑκατονταπλασίονα, ψυχὰι καλάι τε καὶ ἀγαθαί, εἰς βάθος δεχόμεναι τὰ τοῦ λόγου σπέρματα, καὶ κατέχουσαι, καὶ γενναίως τρέφουσαι. Περὶ τῶν τοιούτων ἂν λέγοιτο καὶ μάλα δικαίως, τὸ δι' ἑνὸς τῶν ἁγίων προφητῶν εἰρημένον παρὰ Θεοῦ· "Καὶ μακαριοῦσιν ὑμᾶς πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, διότι ἐγένεσθε ὑμεῖς γῆ θελητή." Ὅταν γὰρ εἰς νοῦν καθαρὸν τῶν παρενοχλεῖν εἰωθότων θεῖος ποτὲ λόγος κατενεχθῇ, τότε δίδωσι ῥίζαν εἰς βάθος, καὶ ἀστάχυος δίκην ἐπιτηδᾶ, καὶ τελεσφορεῖται καλῶς.

PG 72, 625-628.

St. Mark *Monthly Review*

Published by: The Monastery of St. Macarius the Great, Wadi El-Natrun.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS (10 issues a year, July & August excluded, sent by Int. Courier):

U.S.\$ 100.00; Single Copies U.S.\$ 10.00

Subscriptions to be paid through our Website as mentioned below, or sent by a check to:

"St Macarius Printing House", P.O. Box 1574, Centreville, VA 20122, USA.

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Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 80-960629. ISSN 2805-2382

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