
EVERY MAN A SOWER

"And lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the World"

St. Matthew 28:20

Every man is born with the gift of a sower. It does not matter the kind of seed he sows, the fact remains that he is a sower.

To be a sower does not only refer to one who sows seeds in the ground. In every home, parents make it their duty to instruct the young ones born there. They teach them healthy ways, they teach them to respect their parents as well as other people; they teach them about love and its fruitful ways, thus sowing the seed in the right way to the right soil.

When one is a leader of the people, he teaches them the good ways of how to behave so that they become exemplary to the public. A shepherd teaches his flock certain characteristic ways to know his voice. The cattle are given names to which they are made to respond. The oxen are made to understand certain signs to come under a yoke when the man inspanns them. Dogs are given names and even made to understand certain commands at the instructions of owners. Parrots can sound words said by owners. In all these, man is a sower of a good seed in the well-tilled and fertile soil of his choice.

We may say that all the good ways he is imparting to his family, his people, his animals and his pets are seeds sown in a good soil, in his country.

That is not all. He cannot have a rest and affirm that his work is accomplished. His whole mind, his hope and his trust rests upon his efforts. He will think about all his endeavours and his wishes become his prayers for the work on which he spent his energy and time. He will always wish for himself a success in his labours.

When Christ was on earth, He had the same gifts as that of a sower. He had the same qualities as that of a leader of the people or as that of a shepherd. He taught of God's love to His people and to the world; He taught of God's mercy and righteousness to all; He taught of the Kingdom of God in this world; He brought salvation to those who were lost; He brought His redemption to the afflicted and the stricken ones. His light came to those who were in darkness.

He taught the remaining eleven disciples to become the sowers of His seed. He gave them power to look after His people—His flock. He entreated them to hold fast in the work they were about to carry on without Him. He encouraged them to sustain the weighty burden of a sower. Like an intelligent sower who does not go to sleep after covering his seed with soil, like a teacher of children and like a leader of the people in a country, His work did not end there.

His emphatic promise to His disciples was made; His sacrificial love was poured on to the eleven; His courageous strength was dedicated to His work and the remaining workers: "And lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the World"—a courageous promise to show that His work was not completed; a desire to continue for a little while if time was not short or if the stay was a little longer—a clear way of giving hope to workers so that they should not give up a well begun work.

A writer of a book does not delight in preparing manuscripts and then sitting back after the strenuous task of putting together; an editor is not happy to see his work printed and sent out; a news reporter does not praise his work of collecting news all over the world and stop there. It is not the book you write that you will be happy to see; it is not the edited work that makes the editor a well-known man, and it's not the news collected that makes the reporter a good man, it is the message put forth to the people, the seed sown in the fertile soil, the growth of the seed you have sown and the efforts made after the message is published.

Thus Christ promised His disciples the blessings He was going to pour upon them for a continuous work they were to do; the blessings for the spread of the Gospel unto all people; the blessings for the spread of the Good News even unto those dark corners of the world. Let us not despair but carry on with the task given us.—

Amen



This debonair young man is K. Ridgeway, of Karuah