Monday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (*Mt* 13:31-35): "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast..."

The Time of Jesus is the time of sowing and of the seed EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI) (*Città del Vaticano, Vatican*)

Today, Jesus tells us that God's ways never lead to quick results. In fact, at the outset, Jesus Christ ended up on the Cross. Even His disciples were asking Him questions like: -What is going on? why are we not followed?, to which He then answered with the parables of the mustard seed and of the yeast so that they could understand that statistics are not the yardstick God is using.

However, what happened with the mustard seed and some yeast was something extremely important and decisive, though they not could see it then. To find out the end results on these issues we must completely ignore the quantitative proportions. Christianity is not a business that can be figured out through calculations of the type "we are selling a lot", "we have a good sales policy"...

—We provide a service that later on we place into the hands of the Lord. The time of Jesus, the time of the disciples, is the time of sowing and of the seed: it is the presence of a promise.