

Andrés Scheffer: Found Innocent (26/2/19)

This week was a particularly tough week at work for Andrés. Those kinds of weeks just make you long all the more for the Lord to come.

Today's topic has been prepared in order to prepare us for the coming of the Lord.

Terry Cheek was found dead and it was believed that there was foul play involved in her death. Evidence suggested that the lady was having an affair with Horace Roberts. Because of his guilt over the affair he lied to the police during the investigation, and as a result he became the chief suspect. He was convicted of murder and charged with imprisonment. During his imprisonment Horace was a model prisoner until, after 20 years inside, he was proven innocent and released.

Can you prove your innocence?

Remember: "If God is powerful to forgive you, He is also powerful to transform you."

- Isaiah 64:6 - Your best good works are filthy. You are guilty! There are no two ways about that.
- Acts 4:11,12 - Your only option for Salvation is Jesus!

God's grace allows you to come to Him as you are, and then that same grace transforms us!

- Jude 1:24 - "...keep you from falling"
- 1 John 3:6 - "whoever abides... does not sin."

Remember: "When you are holding God's hand, it is impossible to sin."

- Galatians 2:20 - When we are linked up with God, He lives His life through us.
- John 15:5 - "Abide in me."

Who is the greatest?

- Matthew 18:1 - The disciples were arguing amongst themselves about who would be the greatest.

The problem is, they were arguing about which one of *them* was the greatest. None of us are great!

Remember: "By Jesus side, it is simply impossible to sin, but the moment you let go and walk away, there is no power in us."

Do you want innocence? Do you want forgiveness? Abide in Jesus! Simple equation.

The problem is that we try to fight on our own!

"Education, culture, the exercise of the will, human effort; all have their proper sphere, but here they are powerless. They may produce an outward correctness of behaviour, but they cannot change the heart; they cannot purify the springs of life. There must be a power working from within, a new life from above, before men can be changed from sin to holiness. That power is Christ. His grace alone can quicken the lifeless faculties of the soul, and attract it to God, to holiness." Ellen White, The Steps to Christ pg 18

When temptation comes, cry out immediately to the Lord!

Remember: "When you are walking holding Jesus hand, His sanctified will, will unite with your sinful will and it will be transformed into a victorious will."

Three Evidences you are 'in Christ':

1. Feel the desire to spend time in prayer.
2. Feel the desire to spend time in the Word.
3. Feel the desire to spend time witnessing.

Remember: "If we can wake up at 4 am with the intention to live for 100 years on this planet, what are we willing to do to live an eternity?"

By spending time with Jesus in regular communion we set the ground work for claiming the promise of Jude 1:24.

Remember: "We fall not because Jesus does not have the power to keep us from falling; but rather we fall because we separate ourselves from Jesus."

If you fall down, don't stay down, get up!!

The Empty Seat:

When Andrés was a kid, his brother Ricardo moved away to New Zealand, the family had an empty seat at the table during meal times. His parents were nostalgic because of the empty seat at the table. In heaven, there is a place for you! If you are not there, God will have an empty place in His heart for you!

Remember: "If we make it to Heaven, it won't be because we never fell, but because even when we fell, we believed in the powerful grace of Jesus and with His help we stood up and continued walking."

A Story of Redemption:

Pr Alejandro Bullon is an SDA minister in South America. One day an attractive woman came into his office to see him. He asked her what he could do for her. She replied, 'I came here to talk to you.' Then came the bombshell, 'I am a man.' Shocked, given the physical appearance, Pr Bullon said 'excuse me?' Then he went on to tell Pr Bullon about how even with all of the physical changes to his appearance, selling his body, and making lots of money, he still felt completely empty. Nothing filled that void, that is, until he met Jesus. After meeting Jesus, the void had been filled, but he still felt that he'd gone too far to be saved. After hearing about the level of brokenness that this man had experienced, Pr Bullon gave him his own copy of the book 'Steps to Christ' and told him to read it in his lowest times. Years later the man came to Pr Bullon's evangelistic series as a man! It took a lot of transformation, and it was still a battle, but he was journeying with Jesus. I think most people would agree, that he if he could be changed, so can you!!