

An Ecological Echo to Sunday's Good News

"Watch your thoughts, for they will become your words. Watch your words, because they will become your actions. Take care of your actions, because they will become your habits. Take care of your habits, because they will become your destiny." - Mahatma Gandhi.

The Gospel of this Sunday before Lent opens up a radical and vital theme:

How to organize our life according to evangelical values, especially to form a good personality, both pleasing to God and to our neighbors? Am I able to see my neighbor as the temple of God? Am I a promoter of social and environmental justice?

¿Soy consciente de lo que genero con mis pensamientos? ¿Mis actos y mis costumbres son coherentes con lo que digo amar y creer? ¿Soy auténtico frente a Dios y con los que comparto la vida?

El Evangelio de este domingo, previo a la cuaresma, nos abre un tema radical y vital: La prueba de autenticidad del discípulo, la coherencia entre lo que piensa y lo que vive.









And Jesus told them a parable, "

Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.

Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles.

A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.



REFLECTION

Jesus continues to instruct his disciples and followers to form the kingdom of God. That is why he talks about the importance of good attitudes and good behaviors. Undoubtedly our behaviors are the fruits of what is in our hearts because it is the thrown of virtues and vices. Our actions and our temperament are glimpsed in our personality. These lead to habits. Our words arise from our thoughts. We already know that character is modellable. That is why Jesus gives guidelines to mold it. It is an obligation to be His disciple.

The heart is the thorwn of the moral personality: "from within the heart come evil intentions, murders, adulteries, fornications" (Mt 15, 19). The fight against the concupiscence of the flesh passes through the purification of the heart: "Keep yourself in simplicity and innocence, and you will be like little children who ignore the perversity that destroys the lives of men" (Pastor Hermas 27,) says Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC] (2517)

The central message of today's Gospel, in our opinion, is about attitudes, mainly "not judging". The sixth beatitude proclaims: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Mt 5:8).

"Clean hearts" designate those who have adjusted their intelligence and their will to the demands of God's holiness, mainly in three domains: charity (cf 1 Tm 4: 3-9; 2 Tm 2: 22), Exists a bond between the purity of the heart, that of the body and that of faith. This is what Saint Paul emphasizes (1Cor 15: 54-58).

The book of Genesis shows, [...] the work (the mandate to cultivate) and above all the community (the gift of help from someone like him) (cf. Gn 2:8-24). The conditions that assure fullness to human life are, throughout the Old Testament, the object of divine blessing. God wants to guarantee the human kind the good necessary for his growth, the possibility of expressing himself freely, the positive result of work, the richness of relationships between similar beings (Compendium of Church Social Doctrine 428).

Everything indicates how the style of Christian life should be. So Our commitment is to take care of our hearts by increasing virtues such as kindness, mercy, forgiveness, openness to dialogue and avoiding vices such as envy, hatred, prejudice, etc. We are called to care for God's creation because through our dealings with the environment we are also teaching our response or attitude toward His work.







Lord, make me an instrument of your peace and love. May my life be a lamp to radiate your teachings on good behavior for ecclesial life, family life and the care of God's Creation, our Common Home. Create in me a clean heart without prejudice





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