

Peradventure There Be Fifty Righteous

I. Introduction:

A. As Christians we are aware that the world is a place of wickedness (**I John 5:19**).

1. We know there is a course of this world (**Ephesians 2:1-5**) that we cannot conform to (**Romans 12:1-3**).
2. We are thankful that the Lord has delivered us from the system of this world and has granted us citizenship above (**Galatians 1:1-4** and **Colossians 1:12-14**).

B. There have been times wherein finding righteous people has been very difficult, even seemingly impossible (**Psalms 14:1-7** [also **Psalms 53:1-6**]). **We know there's a remnant, but sometimes they are hard to find* (**Romans 11:1-5**).

1. You can see man's frustration in those times (**Deuteronomy 9:24**, **Psalms 26:4-5**, and **Jeremiah 13:15-17**).
2. You can see God's frustration in those times (**Jeremiah 2:12-13** and **Jeremiah 5:1-13**).

II. Body: What About Abraham's Mindset (**Genesis 18:17-19:29**; cf. **Romans 15:4**)?

A. What is God's ultimate will with mankind (**Ezekiel 18:20-32** and **II Peter 3:9**)?

1. Think about what God takes pleasure in (**Psalms 147:11**).
2. Think about what God delights in (**Micah 7:18-20**; cf. **Luke 6:36**).
3. Think about the reaction in Heaven when conversion takes place (**Luke 15:1-32**).

B. Have you thought about your role as the "salt of the earth" (**Matthew 5:13**)?

1. If we were all alive in the days of Abraham, in Sodom, would examination of us have led to the preservation of Sodom (**Isaiah 65:8**)?
2. What if we're not living up to being the salt of the earth (**Luke 14:34-35**)?

C. Remember, the world is not worse now than ever before (**Ecclesiastes 1:9** and **Romans 1:16-32**).

1. Do you think the murdering of innocent, as we have recently seen in schools, has only happened now (**Proverbs 1:8-19** and **Acts 2:22-23**)?
2. Do you think people just now, in our day, are the only generations that have oppressed the defenseless (**Ezekiel 22:7** and **Malachi 3:5**)?
3. Senseless murders are not new (**James 5:6**).
4. Insane religious practices are not new (**Jeremiah 32:33-35**).
5. Listen, even those who have done the unthinkable can be saved (**Acts 3:14-19** and **I Timothy 1:12-16**; [cf. **Acts 22:4** and **Acts 26:9-11**]).
6. Some of us would do well to remember our sinful pasts like we see revealed about some saints in the past (**I Corinthians 6:9-11** and **Colossians 1:21**).

7. Not allowing our frustrations with the world to keep us from caring about trying to save those who are lost (**Matthew 5:43-48**).

D. Remember, sometimes things have to get really bad for people to desire to look to God (**Judges 3:7-30** and **Lamentations 5:7-22**).

1. They have to come to realize where to find salvation, hope, and peace (**Lamentations 3:26**, **Colossians 3:15**, **I Thessalonians 5:9**, and **I Peter 1:17-21**).

2. If we don't step in, what happened in Abraham's days will ultimately be what happens to sinners in the end (**Jude 1:7**).

3. Listen, few will be saved (**Matthew 7:13-14** and **Luke 13:23-24**).

4. Having said that, don't contribute to the loss of any (**Matthew 23:13**).

III. Conclusion: **I Timothy 2:1-6**