

# **Demonic Gang Member Murders, Dismembers Driver for Uber Eats**

As Christians, we believe that all human beings are created in the image of God and possess inherent dignity and worth. Therefore, the brutal murder and dismemberment of an innocent Uber Eats driver, Randall Cooke, by a member of the notorious MS-13 gang, Oscar Solis, is a heinous crime that goes against the very nature of God and the sanctity of human life.

The Pasco County Sheriff Chris Nocco rightly described the crime as “demonic,” as it defies reason and logic to take the life of another human being for no apparent reason. The Bible tells us that Satan is a liar, a thief, and a murderer who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). The devil is the father of lies, and he has been a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44). When we see acts of senseless violence and evil like this, we can rightly attribute them to the influence of demonic forces.

We should not be quick to absolve Oscar Solis of responsibility for his actions. While we acknowledge the reality of spiritual warfare and the influence of evil in our world, human beings are still responsible for their choices and actions. Solis made a series of decisions that led him down a path of crime and violence, culminating in the murder of an innocent man. His previous offenses, including battery, burglary, assault, and possession of stolen auto parts, demonstrate a pattern of disregard for the law and for the lives and property of others.

As Christians, we believe in the concept of sin, which is the willful rebellion against God and his ways. Sin leads to death, both physical and spiritual (Rom. 6:23). When human

beings choose to sin, they are choosing to align themselves with the devil and his evil purposes. In the case of Oscar Solis, his actions were not only illegal and immoral, but they were also deeply sinful.

We grieve for the loss of Randall Cooke and extend our condolences to his family and loved ones. Cooke was a hardworking man who ran his own business and was described as a loving husband. His death is a tragic reminder of the fragility of life and the reality of evil in our world. However, we take comfort in the knowledge that God is a God of justice who will one day make all things right. The Bible assures us that "the Lord loves justice and will not forsake his faithful ones," (Ps. 37:28).

We also recognize the importance of forgiveness and redemption. As Christians, we believe in the transformative power of God's love and grace. While Oscar Solis must face the consequences of his actions and be held accountable for his crimes, we also believe that he has the potential to turn away from his life of sin and seek forgiveness and healing. The Bible tells us that "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness," (1 John 1:9). We pray that Solis will come to a place of repentance and turn his life around, seeking to make amends for the harm he has caused and seeking to live a life that honors God and respects the dignity of all human beings.

Finally, we urge our fellow Christians and all people of goodwill to reject the culture of violence and lawlessness that breeds criminal organizations like MS-13. We must work together to promote peace, justice, and compassion in our communities, recognizing that each human being is a precious and unique creation of God. We must also support law enforcement and other agencies in their efforts to bring criminals to justice and prevent future crimes from occurring. May we all work together to build a world that reflects the

love and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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