



March 13, 2022

“Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” Lk. 23:43

I. Trusting in Jesus (vs. 40 – 42)

- A. What it takes to be “saved” (Eph. 2:8,9) – To rail against Jesus or to run to Jesus
- B. Many misunderstand the direct truth of “faith alone, through grace alone, in Christ alone”
- C. Illustration of truth: Salvation by Faith in Jesus through Grace
 - 1. Fear God – “Don’t you fear God?” (vs. 40a)
 - a. Realizing the existence of God
 - b. Realizing the holiness of God
 - c. Respecting the “Fatherhood” of God
 - d. Remembering the covenant of God
 - 2. Affirming our sin that deserves a penalty – “under the same sentence” (vs. 40b) “what our deeds deserve” (vs. 41)
 - a. Realizing our sin is a debt toward God
 - b. Realize that our “sinfulness” separates us from God (Rom. 3:23)
 - c. Respecting the fact that we deserve to die because of our sin (Eph. 2:1,2)
 - d. Remembering the Salvation from the penalty we deserve is available through Christ
 - 3. Cry out to Christ with a sincere heart (vs. 41b,42)
 - a. Realizing Christ is a righteous man and the Messiah
 - b. Realizing that His kingdom is to come in the future
 - c. Requesting Christ to forgive his sins = acceptance into His kingdom
 - d. Releasing control and concern for one’s life to God through Christ

II. Today with Jesus in paradise (vs. 43)

- A. Christ states a one sentence doctrine!
- B. The truth “exclamation point”! - “I tell you the truth” (75X in the Gospels)
- C. The truth of “instant presence” – “today” (semeron = “this very day”) (2 Cor. 5:8)
- D. The truth of “Christ’s presence” – “you will be with me” (Jn. 14:3)
- E. The truth of “heaven” – “in paradise” (Rev. 21,22; 2 Cor. 12:3; Lk. 16:19-31)

III. Turning our eyes to Jesus

- A. The world will not satisfy – turn your eyes to Jesus
- B. The world will not save you – turn your eyes to Jesus
- C. The world will not last – turn your eyes to Jesus
- D. The window is small – turn your eyes to Jesus today!