

Luke 23:32-43

I. Crucifixion

- A. Taken to “the place of the skull” (Aramaic Golgotha)
- B. Crucified
- C. How this worked

II. Forgiveness and mockery

- A. Crucified with criminals (Isaiah 53:12; Luke 22:37)
- B. “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
- C. Division of his garments (Psalm 22:7)
- D. The rulers: “Let him save himself.” (Isaiah 42:1; Luke 9:20)
- E. The soldiers: sour wine (Psalm 69:21)

III. Jesus and the Criminals

- A. Jesus is numbered with the transgressors – the *lēstai* (cf. Isaiah 53:12; Luke 22:37)
- B. The first robber “rails” - desperate to escape this horrible death
- C. The second robber rebukes him
- D. “Truly I say to you, this day you will be with me in paradise.”
 - i. Unbelief in this situation
 - ii. Faith in this situation
- E. Therefore we can afford to die

IV. The Gospel for criminals

- A. Christians must speak the Gospel to scary people (Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:18-19)
- B. We are not Jesus in this story; we are the criminals
- C. The damned do pray (in a way)
- D. What it means to fear God
- E. There is no place in Scripture where Jesus speaks such a profound and final blessing on someone. (Luke 5:20; 7:9; 7:48-50; 8:48; 10:42; 13:16; 17:17-19; 18:42; 19:9-10; 23:43)