



"The Word of Assurance"

One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!"⁴⁰ But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die?"⁴¹ We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong."⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."⁴³ And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23: 39-43 (NLT)

FIVE TRUTHS THAT SAVED THE DYING THIEF

1. *"Don't you fear God even when you are dying?"*

Luke 23:40 (NLT)

"Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God."

Hebrews 9:27 (TEV)

2. “We deserve to die for our evil deeds...” Luke 23:41 (NIV)

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23 (NIV)

3. “...but this man has not done anything wrong.” Luke 23:41

“There is not a single person in all the earth who is always good and never sins.” Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NLT)

“For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.” 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

4. Then he said, “Jesus, remember me...” Luke 23:42 (NIV)

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

5. “...when you come into your kingdom!” Luke 23:42 (NIV)

*“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.”
Acts 16:31 (NIV)*

“He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every

knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:8-11 (NLT)

HOW CAN I BE SURE I AM SAVED?

Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with Me in paradise.” Luke 23:43 (NIV)

- It is **IMMEDIATE** “Today”
- It is **CERTAIN** “you will”
- It is **A RELATIONSHIP** “be with me”
- It is **A PLACE FOREVER** “in paradise”

WHEN CAN I BE SAVED?

*For God says, “At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you. Indeed, the “right time” is now. Today is the day of salvation.”
2 Corinthians 6:2 (NLT)*

*“Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”
Romans 10:13 (NLT)*