

# THE CROSS & SALVATION LUKE 23:32-46

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

**1 Timothy 1:15** This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

**Luke 23:35** And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

**Luke 23:37** And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

**Luke 23:39** And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

## What do we find in this text?

### 1. Mocking salvation

**Luke 23:35** And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them **derided** (Εξεμυκτήριζον) him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

#### False issue:

**Luke 23:1** And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. **Luke 23:2** And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow **perverting** the nation, and **forbidding** to give tribute to Caesar, **saying** that he himself is Christ a King.

#### Real issue:

**Luke 23:35** And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

#### Political:

- Stirring up the pockets
- Interfering with the collection of taxes
- Claiming to be a King

2 of 3 of these claims were true for Barabbas!

#### Religious:

- They knew about His salvation message from sin
- If you are the Christ / Messiah
- If you are the chosen one of God

### 2. Misunderstanding salvation

**Luke 23:36** And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar,

**Luke 23:37** And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

The soldiers – Roman soldiers of some variety were used to dealing with ugly matters, the worst parts of life and tended to be:

- Calloused
- Hardened
- Gallows humor
- Interested not in good & evil / justice & injustice / right & wrong
- Interested only in power, money, survival...

**Luke 23:32** And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. **Luke 23:33** And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

**Luke 23:34** Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. **And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.**

**Luke 23:37** And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

#### And yet:

**Luke 23:47** Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, **Certainly this was a righteous man.**

**Matthew 27:54** Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, **Truly this was the Son of God.**

### 3. Missing salvation

**Luke 23:32** And there were also two other, **malefactors**, led with him to be put to death.

**Luke 23:33** And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and **the malefactors**, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

**Luke 23:39** And **one of the malefactors** which were hanged **railed on him**, saying, **If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.**

\*He showed up with his girlfriend...

**Or:**

To get what I want

To get my family back

Go get out of the court system

To get a promotion / new job

To find success / money

To save my marriage

9/11

To get the girl

**AND, IF NOT, ANGER, RAGE, RAILING, AND THEY ARE**

**Luke 22:41** And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, **Luke 22:42** Saying, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.**

**Jesus' options were limited:**

**Save Himself & save no one spiritually**

**Save Himself & physically save people for a short while**

**Not save Himself & save a host of sinful people**

Mocking, misunderstanding, missing...

### 4. Mastering salvation

**Luke 23:40** **But the other** answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, **seeing thou art in the same condemnation?**

**Luke 23:41** **And we indeed justly; for** we receive the due reward of our deeds: **but this man hath done nothing amiss.**

**Luke 23:42** And he said unto Jesus, **Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.**

**Luke 23:43** And Jesus said unto him, **Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.**

**“Every time I go to church I feel guilty / bad!”**

**Romans 3:10** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

**Psalms 51:3** For I acknowledge my transgressions: And my sin is ever before me.

**Psalms 51:4** Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, And done this evil in thy sight: That thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, And be clear when thou judgest.

**Galatians 3:24** Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

**Romans 10:4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

Salvation is about sin

And the just sentence

Sinners, sinners condemned & rightly / justly so!

Salvation is about dying for our sins

Salvation is about being saved

Saved right now / right here → today!

Salvation is about being with Him in paradise

Salvation is about Christ & Him crucified

Salvation is about Christ and Him alone

**Romans 10:13** For **whosoever shall call** upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**Acts 16:31** And they said, **Believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.