

THE WORD OF ASSURANCE
The Seven Greatest Words of Love – Part 2
Rev. Steve Norman
February 14, 2021

“One of the criminals hanging beside Jesus hurled insults at him. ‘So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!’ But the other criminal rebuked him, ‘Don’t you fear God even when you are dying? We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man has not done anything wrong!’ Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.’ And Jesus replied, ‘I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”
Luke 23:39-43 (NLT)

**WHAT MUST I KNOW TO BE SAVED?
5 TRUTHS THAT SAVED THE DYING THIEF**

- 1. I MUST KNOW I’LL FACE GOD AFTER I DIE**
“Don’t you fear God even when you are dying?” Luke 23:40(NIV)
“Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God.”
Hebrews 9:27 (TEV)
- 2. I MUST KNOW I’VE SINNED AGAINST GOD**
“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. I MUST KNOW JESUS WAS MORE THAN A MAN**
“...but this man has not done anything wrong!” Luke 23:41 (NIV)
“There is not a single person in all the earth who is always good and never sins.”
Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NLT)
“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Cor. 5:21 (NIV)

- 4. I MUST KNOW ONLY GOD’S GRACE CAN SAVE HIM**
“Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me...’” Luke 23:42 (NIV)

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

- 5. I MUST KNOW JESUS WILL SAVE ME IF I ASK**
“...when you come into your kingdom!” Luke 23:42 (NIV)

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

HOW CAN I BE SURE I AM SAVED?

THE PROMISE OF GOD’S WORD

“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?

“This is the hour to receive God’s favor! Today is the day to be saved!”
2 Corinthians 6:2 (TEV)

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

MEMORY VERSE:

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

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord, I thank You that Your grace is so great, it covers everything I've ever done wrong. Thank You for the promise of salvation by Your grace alone, not by works so that I cannot boast that I somehow earned it. And thank you that I can live in the assurance that I am saved. Help me to live by Your grace every day of my life and help me to extend that grace to everyone I meet. Grant me the words to share with others who may ask me how they can know You and know they are saved.

Thank You, Lord, for Your unconditional love that accepts me just as I am and for Your incredible gift of what You did on the cross so I could experience a right relationship with God, my Father. I pray that everyone who join us in worship on Sundays will know You and grow in their relationship with You. Thank you for making a way for us to meet together each Sundays. I thank You and praise You for all of these things. In Jesus' name, Amen.