

Today You will be with Me in Paradise

Luke 23:35-43

February 25, 2024

The Crowd at the Cross:

- People stood.
- Rulers sneered. (Taunt #1)
 - “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.”
- Soldiers mocked. (Taunt #2)
 - “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”
- Criminal insulted/ blasphemed. (Taunt #3)
 - Criminal – “A doer of evil” or “a bad guy”
 - “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

The one exception:

- Criminal rebuked.
 - Aren’t you afraid? – “Don’t you fear God since you are under the sentence?” (You are gonna die!)
 - Rebuked = Command with implication of a threat
 - We deserve this. – We are punished justly.”
 - He is innocent. – “This man has done nothing wrong.”
 - Luke 23:4, 14, 22 – Pilate (3X testimony!)
 - Luke 23:15 – Herod
 - Luke 23:47 – Centurion
- The request: Remember me. (See Genesis 40:14; Psalm 106:4)
 - To remember and respond appropriately
 - When(ever)... you come into your kingdom.

Jesus shocking answer!

- Today, you will be with me in paradise. (Sooner & Greater!)

Application:

- Who are you?
 - People = A passive by-stander?
 - Ruler = One who looks down your nose?
 - Soldier = One who is a sarcastic impersonator?
 - Criminal #1 = A blasphemer?
 - Criminal #2 = “Remember me.”

The 2nd word of the cross? Mercy.